

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY.

SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING.

13th inst.
The twenty-fourth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company, to-day. Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson occupied the chair, and there were present Messrs. W. Parlance (Manager), E. Cow (Secretary), D. Clark, W. Dixon, H. P. White, A. Rodger, F. Smyth, T. S. Forrest, A. Brooke Smith, W. A. C. Crickshank, B. Layton, C. A. W. May, C. Mooney, Ho Fook, Ho Kung Tong, and Lo Cheung Shiu.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, with your approval I propose to take the report and accounts as read. The receipts for ice, as compared with the year 1903, show a decrease of about \$7,800, the major part of which is traceable to the absence of Japanese steamers; on the other hand, I am pleased to say revenue received from cold storage exceeds that of 1903 by \$1,300, and from this branch of our business, the prospects of which appear to be satisfactory, we look for increased earnings in the future. Turning now to the other side of the account, under the heading of salaries, wages and general expenses there has been a saving of \$9,600. The new machine referred to at the last meeting was completed in July, and has since been working satisfactorily, in order to ensure our keeping pace with demand it has been necessary to order seven new ice boxes, and on no distant date it is hoped calls on our cold storage will necessitate the insulation of the two rooms already built for that purpose. With this outlay to face, and also bearing in mind the possibility of opposition which is ever before them, your general managers have considered it prudent to appropriate a further sum of \$15,000 for provision for contingencies, and this will I trust commend itself to you. If any shareholder wishes to ask any question I will be pleased to answer them.

Mr. Dixon: I have very great pleasure in seconding the report. It shows a very successful year's working. We occupy an enviable position in having \$20,000 in the bank, a position which very few companies in the East can show. We have great trust in the Manager, Mr. Parlance, who is not only a competent engineer but a very shrewd business man as well. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Smyth proposed the re-election of Mr. T. Arnold as auditor.

Mr. Rodger seconded, and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman said this concluded the business and dividend warrants would be ready to-morrow.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

14th inst.
The seventy-seventh ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of this Company was held at the offices of the Company, Bank Buildings, at noon, to-day, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson presiding. There were also present Messrs. T. Arnold (Secretary), N. A. Siebs, E. R. Fuhrmann, E. Goetz, A. Haupt, Hon. Mr. R. Shawan, H. Schubart, F. Salinger, G. T. Veitch, J. R. Michael, J. Arnold, Captain W. E. Clarke, L. Berindouque, T. S. Forrest and W. A. Crickshank.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen: With your permission, it will be convenient to take the report and accounts as read. Your directors regret that, in placing these accounts before you, they have to recommend a reduced dividend, but it must be remembered that for the two previous half-years the higher dividend was only maintained by the withdrawal of \$30,000 from the equalization of dividend fund and \$30,000 from the depreciation fund, and, as at present, there seems but little prospect of any material improvement of earnings in the near future, your directors consider that it would be unwise to weaken the Company's position by drawing further on its reserves for the purpose of maintaining a dividend greatly in excess of actual earnings, a policy of which they trust that shareholders will approve. For the past three half-years the net earnings of our steamers have run pretty evenly at about \$65,000, while for the six previous half-years the average was \$65,000; in other words, each of the past three half-years shows a decrease of about \$10,000 on the six months' working. The causes of this heavy falling off of our profits were fully explained at our two previous meetings, and are so well known that it is needless to enlarge on the subject now, suffice it to say that while competition overburdens the trade with tonnage far in excess of the requirements low rates must of necessity prevail and profitable working cannot be looked for. The direct West River service, as you are aware, was resumed in the early part of last year; results have so far been somewhat disappointing, but with a new working arrangement which has recently been entered into, better returns from this source may be expected in the current year. The assets shown in our balance sheet all stand at safe values and there does not appear to be anything under this heading which calls for special remark, so unless further information be desired, I will propose the adoption of the report and accounts as they stand.

No questions being asked,

The Chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. R. Michael seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. R. Michael proposed, and Captain Clarke seconded, that the appointment of Mr. F. Salinger to a seat on the Directorate vice Mr. H. E. Tomkins, who is leaving the Colony, be confirmed.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

Mr. G. T. Veitch proposed the re-election of Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and W. H. Potts as auditors.

Mr. Berindouque seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Chairman thanked the shareholders for their presence and said that dividend warrants would be ready to-morrow morning.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

USUAL BONUS DOUBLED.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

The seventy-ninth ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders was held at the City Hall at noon. Mr. A. J. Raymond presided and there were present—Messrs. J. R. M. Smith (Chief Manager), H. E. Tomkins, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Mr. R. Shawan, E. Goetz, H. Schubart, E. Shelling, N. A. Siebs, H. W. Slade, E. S. Wheeler (Directors), F. Salinger, T. Arnold, C. E. Anton, G. H. Medhurst, Hon. Mr. Gershon Stewart, Captain F. B. Goddard, G. B. Dodwell, H. M. H. Nemazee, T. F. Hough, A. Rodger, A. Roza, Ho Kung Tong, Ho Fook, S. J. Michael, S. H. Michael, W. H. Potts, E. Kadoorie, C. S. Gubbay, J. C. Peter, C. W. May, G. H. Potts, J.

Macarthur, A. G. Wood, W. H. Gaskell, A. Forbes, D. D. Gardar, C. A. Jones, H. N. Mody, E. S. Kadoorie, J. A. Chinoy, N. J. Stabb, P. C. H. J. Lotte, W. H. Wickham, S. Hancock, W. G. Pirie, H. C. Gotha, W. A. Crickshank, C. Gonvalves, E. Georg, Lo Cheung Shiu, J. MacLaren, J. M. S. Alves, and F. B. Marshall.

The Chief Manager having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, I think you will all join with your directors in looking on the report that I have just read as a very satisfactory one. Besides the usual dividend of £1,10/- per share, we propose paying a bonus of £1, per share. As we are also able to provide for the transfer of one million dollars to silver reserve fund and write two lacs of dollars off bank premises account, we feel justified in recommending the increase of the £1/- bonus, which you have been accustomed to receive since 1899, to £1, on this occasion. The higher rate of exchange on the 31st December, at which the dividend for this half year is declared, lessens the amount in dollars, compared with the corresponding period last year, to an appreciable extent; our funds in the East were well employed during the six months and we had to deal with easier money in the home markets, other favourable circumstances also helped to swell the profits for the period under review, and for these reasons I would recommend you not to build your hopes on a continuation of the £1/- bonus, but rather to consider the £1/- as an exception. Under these circumstances we thought it only right that the staff should be admitted to a share in the bank's prosperity; they have all worked well and the results shown give ample proof of this and speak eloquently as to the way in which your interests have been looked after, and in voting the members of the staff a well deserved bonus of 15/- per cent on their salaries, your Directors felt that they were, only anticipating and giving effect to what would be your own wishes in this respect. I may mention that, as customary, full provision has been made for all bad and doubtful accounts and I trust the proposed distribution of profits will receive your approval. Comparing the various items in the balance sheet with the previous report, you will observe that as usual our note circulation is higher than in June last year, and at \$16,422,503 shows an increase of \$163,349 over the corresponding period in 1903. There is a falling off in silver current accounts of \$5,000,000 which may be chiefly put down to money being in strong demand towards the end of the year. Silver fixed deposits have increased \$2,000,000. Gold fixed deposits and current accounts show a total increase of close on \$2,000,000. This is largely accounted for by proceeds of loans temporarily deposited with our London office. Bills payable are lower by \$30,000. On the other side taking the amounts of cash, coin lodged with the Government of Hongkong against excess note issue, and bullion in hand and in transit, together there is no appreciable difference in the total figures. Indian Government Rupee paper is practically the same, but Consols, Colonial and other securities stand at \$7,214,974,98 as against \$6,713,366,95. Sterling reserve fund investments remain unchanged. Bills discounted, loans and credits are about \$1,500,000 less, while Bills Receivable at \$11,000,136,44 are higher by fifteen mill on dollars, but this is chiefly due to the increased funds in London already referred to, which enabled our office there to carry a larger proportion of our Eastern remittances than usual and is reflected in the reduced amount of Bills rediscounted as noted in the margin of the report. The war continues to be a very disturbing element in the Far Eastern mercantile world, dislocating ordinary trade channels and making general business difficult and unsettled. I will not venture to forecast the end but for the sake of humanity, the happiness and well-being of the people of two great nations, as well as in the interests of trade and commerce, it is earnestly to be hoped that the conflict will soon be terminated. When peace does come, I trust sincerely that the hope which have been so confidently expressed of the permanent opening up to the trade of these regions where the scene of the war is placed, will be fully realized, and that every nation will participate on equal terms in what will undoubtedly prove to be large and important markets for us all. A return of confidence must follow the restoration of peace, and with this should come a revival of trade, fresh developments and new enterprises in China a situation which this Bank from its position and resources out here is ready and able to take full advantage. I have now to refer to a matter which I am sure you will all be sorry to hear about, and that is the retirement of Sir Ewen Cameron, our senior manager in London. He has been stricken with a severe illness and was very anxious that the directors should accept his resignation. I need hardly say that it was only in deference to his own wishes that we acceded to his request, and we did so with great reluctance, deep regret and sincere sympathy for himself and family. Sir Ewen Cameron's name will have a prominent place in the history of the bank. He joined here in 1867, shortly after the bank was started, and he has had a very large share in raising it to its present position. His ability, tact and kindly disposition commanded success wherever he has served the bank. Many of you will remember him as manager in Shanghai where, as also in the north of China, he did so much to build up our business. I can look back myself 24 years in Shanghai and at that time there was no better known or more popular resident in the settlement than Mr. (as he then was) Ewen Cameron. A man of broad views and sound judgment, he took a prominent part in negotiating the early loans issued by the bank for the Imperial Chinese Government, and the friendly relations which were then established between government and the bank, I am glad to say, exist to-day and I hope will always continue. Since he went to London he has also taken the leading part there in negotiating the various Chinese and Japanese Government loans which it has been the bank's good fortune to be so prominently associated with. His marvellous energy and wholehearted devotion to the general interests of the bank, and its shareholders are well known to you all but perhaps nowhere has he done better service than in the City of London, where he made many good and influential friends for the bank.

Mr. F. Salinger seconded and said:—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the very satisfactory report and accounts which have been laid before us. The position attained by this institution, through the real and energy of all connected with it, is one of which we may feel proud. I am sure that all the shareholders will appreciate the £1/- bonus, and, though the Chairman has remarked that we may not always be so fortunate, I am convinced that, under the present able management, we may look forward to the future with all confidence. I cannot help expressing the sincere regret which must be felt by all at the retirement of Sir Ewen Cameron, and more especially at the very sad reasons for it.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Arnold proposed the re-election of Messrs. H. E. Tomkins, A. J. Raymond and N. A. Siebs to the Directorate.

Mr. Anton seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Medhurst proposed, and the Hon. Mr. Gershon Stewart seconded the re-election of Messrs. A. G. Wood and W. H. Hutton "Potts" as auditors, and this was also agreed to.

The meeting terminated with vote of thanks to the Chairman who announced that the dividend warrants would be ready on Monday.

HEAVY CLAIM FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT.

13th inst.

At the Supreme Court this morning, before the Chief Justice (Sir Henry S. Berkeley) the Yan Cheong firm of yarn merchants of Bonham Strand East, sued the Sam Yee Company Limited, to recover \$1,191, being damages for breach of contract in respect of certain cotton yarn which defendants contracted to deliver but failed to do so.

Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. John Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) defended. Chuen Li Po, managing partner of the plaintiff firm, was called and spoke to making a number of contracts with the defendant company in December 1903, for the delivery of certain quantities of cotton yarn at various prices. It was the custom to take delivery within three months, but if no delivery was taken an extra charge of two cents a day was made. No actual time for taking delivery was inserted in the contracts, but it was the custom of the trade to take delivery within three Chinese months. If the seller could not supply the yarn the two cents of course was not payable. Under the first contract he got delivery of 167 bales, but could not get delivery of any further yarn under six other contracts. On the 13th December he made application for the delivery of 108 bales at \$10 a bale and tendered the price in full payment, but the defendants said they had no yarn to deliver. Subsequently he made repeated applications for yarn, and was met with the same reply, "None to deliver." His firm was suffering heavy loss in consequence of the breach of contract, but they allowed things to go on until the 12th April of last year, when they made a demand for delivery of the yarn contracted for and tendered the price of it. Defendants said they had none, whereupon plaintiffs entered the present action against them. Prior to this the manager for the defendants invited him to a dinner at a Chinese restaurant at which were present others in a similar position to himself. When the defendant manager repeated that he had no yarn to deliver, witness said to him, "Well buy from the foreign firms," but he replied, "Wait a few days, I have some of my own coming." Witness produced his books, and a large number of documents showing the market value of a bale on dates when he applied for delivery. The final breach took place on the 16th April when yarn was quoted at \$120 a bale, and the defendants were notified that unless delivery was made of the 1,164 bales, being the undelivered balance of the amount they had contracted to supply, plaintiffs would be compelled to buy in open market, and debt be accordingly suffered damages to the extent of \$785,84 by such breach. The sale of the draft on October 4th at 1/91 amounted to \$21,943.85, and the cost on the 30th November at 1/10 1/16 amounted to \$21,157.02, hence the sum claimed.

In giving judgment for the plaintiffs with costs, His Honour said that the books of the defendant Bank appeared to have been kept properly. The fact of the absence of any reference in them to the present transaction, extended no further to the facts of the case, than this, viz: that the defendants had no knowledge that Li Yuk Chu had negotiated the contract now sued upon. This however could not affect the defendants' liability. He also certified for Counsel.

Mr. Pollock applied for immediate execution. The case had been very strenuously contested, and two of the parties on the other side had admitted that they were partners. His Honour refused the application, until after the expiration of the ordinary seven days.

The case was adjourned till to-morrow.

At the Supreme Court this morning, before the Chief Justice (Sir Henry S. Berkeley) the action brought by the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank, against a native hong, known as the Wing Shing Hing Bank, doing business at 102, Wing Lok Street.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. P. W. Goldring (instructed by Mr. W. H. N. Ferrers) for the defendants.

Plaintiffs alleged that they had suffered damage by reason of the breach by the defendants of a contract dated the 4th October, 1904, and made between the plaintiffs and the defendants whereby the last-named agreed to purchase from the plaintiffs a sterling draft on London, payable on demand, for the sum of \$2,000 sterling, at exchange 1/9, and which said contract was to be completed on the 30th November, 1904. The defendants failed to complete their purchase on due date, and the plaintiffs had accordingly suffered damages to the extent of \$785,84 by such breach. The sale of the draft on October 4th at 1/91 amounted to \$21,943.85, and the cost on the 30th November at 1/10 1/16 amounted to \$21,157.02, hence the sum claimed.

In giving judgment for the plaintiffs with costs, His Honour said that the books of the defendant Bank appeared to have been kept properly. The fact of the absence of any reference in them to the present transaction, extended no further to the facts of the case, than this, viz: that the defendants had no knowledge that Li Yuk Chu had negotiated the contract now sued upon. This however could not affect the defendants' liability. He also certified for Counsel.

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His Honour refused the application, until after the expiration of the ordinary seven days.

The case was adjourned till to-morrow.

At the Supreme Court this morning, before the Chief Justice (Sir Henry S. Berkeley) the action brought by the Yan Cheong firm, yarn merchants of Bonham Strand East, against the Sam Yee, Limited, to recover \$1,191 damages for breach of contract, was continued.

Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. John Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) defended.

The managing partner of the plaintiff firm was further cross-examined, and taken over practically every item in a very prolix statement of particulars. He had contracts with other dealers besides the defendants to supply him with yarn. Because he could not get yarn from defendants he had to buy extensively from other firms.

The accountant of the plaintiff firm gave evidence as to the failure to deliver the yarn. Cross-examined he said his salary was \$10 a month and odds and ends (Laughter). Asked to explain "odds and ends" he said he got the hoops off the bales, and other requisites, whilst in common with all the employees, he received a small percentage on the profits of his business. Witness, asked as to a certain account, said he could not remember the circumstances as it was several years ago. Corrected as to this, he said "well it was the year before last." The witness spoke as to the necessity for taking yarn from other firms, through defendants being unable to deliver. It was the custom to give twenty-four hours grace on time delivery. The Sam Yee firm paid off people continually, other firms very rarely. The case was further adjourned.

JUDGMENT FOR PLAINTIFFS.

14th inst.

At the Supreme Court this morning, before the Chief Justice (Sir Henry S. Berkeley) presiding, the hearing of the action in which the Yan Cheong firm of yarn merchants of Bonham Strand East sued the Sam Yee Limited for \$1,191 damages for breach of contract, was continued.

Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. John Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) defended.

The managing partner of the plaintiff firm was again cross-examined, and taken over practically every item in a very prolix statement of particulars. He had contracts with other dealers besides the defendants to supply him with yarn. Because he could not get yarn from defendants he had to buy extensively from other firms.

The accountant tendered the price of the yarn some thirty odd thousand dollars in cash.

Defendants wanted to give him an order on another firm, but he refused and told them he wanted godown cargo, and nothing else.

Mr. Sharp said that this concluded the evidence, and as that evidence was almost identical with other actions pending between the parties, he would ask that it be taken as read when those actions came on.

Mr. Pollock agreed so far as the action was concerned, and His Lordship granted the application.

For the defence, Mr. Pollock said that after carefully weighing the evidence given, he frankly admitted that the case was a very strong one, and he had decided not to call the evidence he had intended to call, insomuch as it would not in any way affect the issue. He would, however, address His Lordship on the

point of law, and in the first place would say that the plaintiffs could not sue for damages they had not actually suffered—that was, they could not recover damages as damages, other than they had sustained. He admitted that the plaintiffs were entitled to recover in so far as about five hundred bales were concerned which they had been obliged to buy in the market at a higher rate than the defendants contracted to deliver. But they could not come there and ask to be given what really amounted to a present. This was the chief point in his defense. Counsel then referred to various decided cases.

After Mr. Sharp had replied briefly for the plaintiffs,

His Lordship

OUR RATTAN INDUSTRY.

INTRODUCTION OF LINEN FIBRE.

VISIT TO HARRIS-KEENEY COMPANY'S WORKS.

14th inst.
Rattan work is one of the recognised industries of the East. On every hand the craftsman's handbook in this particular line of business is in evidence, yet comparatively few people in Hongkong are likely to take the trouble to ferret out the methods adopted in manufacturing the raffia furniture which appears in every house, from the richest to the poorest. It is doubtful, indeed, if the majority of people have any idea whence the raffia comes. At various places, the canes may be seen standing outside Chinese houses, ready apparently to be converted into the long chairs—which is the chief cause of lounging here, as elsewhere—or a hundred and one nick-nacks from a lady's workbasket to a baby's cot. Hongkong, however, is one of the important centres of the rattan industry, and the chief factory for the manufacture of all sorts of rattan furniture is that known as the Harris-Keeney Company's Grass and Rattan Factory, situated on the Shaukiwan Road. A representative of the *Hongkong Telegraph* visited the establishment the other day with the object of gaining some insight into the working of the factory, and the processes employed whereby the willow wands are bent and twisted into all manner of shapes.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.

The Harris-Keeney Company is an American concern, in the sense that the two partners are Scattie men. And the story how they came to set up business in Hongkong is an interesting one. Mr. Thomas P. Keeney had long held the idea that there was a bright future for the rattan industry, if only a couple of energetic men took it in hand. He looked at the rattan chairs produced by Chinese labour, as they appeared when landed in San Francisco or Seattle, and he saw that they were of the roughest description. It is possible, he said to himself, to get these people to do things right, so he came to Hongkong in 1902 and remained in the Colony for six weeks. In that short period he had learned all the ins and outs of the rattan trade; he recognised its possibilities, and saw that the business then being done could be doubled and trebled in a very short time by only intelligent men, and men of ideas, were at the head of affairs. When he returned to America he had too rattan chairs in the vessel's hold, chairs which had been made to his own designs and under his own supervision. The chairs caught the popular fancy and went off like hot-cakes. To make a long story short, the enterprising Westerner joined partnership with Mr. Emmet Harris and the Harris-Keeney Company was the result. The Company has now been at work nearly two years and the belief of the partners in the ultimate success of their business has been more than verified.

WORLD-WIDE CONNECTIONS.

At the present time the Company are shipping every kind of rattan work to all parts of the world. The stores are filled with big crates for Durban, South Africa; for San Francisco and Manila. They have contracts to supply goods all over South Africa, sending so many a month; they are shipping regularly to Copenhagen, Berlin, to Australia where the Company have a special agent, New Zealand, India, and the Philippines Islands. Curiously enough, New York and London are the only two great centres which the Company have failed to invest in their ramifications. With regard to New York, the Company have been trying in every way possible to reach that market, but so far without success, and why?

TARIFF AND TRANSPORTATION.

Simply on account of the prohibitive tariff and heavy transportation expenses. But now that the Great Northern Steamship Company have commenced running huge cargo boats across the Pacific, it is believed that freight charges will come down with a rush, and the New York market will come within the bounds of the Company's business. If they cannot get to New York by the Pacific then the Suez Canal route must be tried, for as Mr. Keeney said: "Our big business is to be in New York, and we must and will get there." The *Minneapolis*, one of the Hill boats, is on the way to Hongkong from the western coast of America and it will then be seen whether the freight charges are to be reduced. As to London, the Company are now in negotiation with a big firm there and it is expected that, should these negotiations reach a satisfactory issue, a large business will result.

AT CHICAGO EXHIBITION.

Every year, two furniture exhibitions, are held in Chicago, and at the exhibition which is now opened, the Harris-Keeney Company have a floor space of 900 square feet. An assortment of the various rattan chairs, settees, and fancy articles in cane, grass and raw linen, which the firm are prepared to place on the market, is on view, and from all accounts the exhibit should lead to increased and widely extended demands. When it is remembered that at these exhibitions all the chief furniture manufacturers of America and Europe have stands, the position occupied by the Harris-Keeney Company will be better understood, although anyone paying a casual visit to the factory at Shaukiwan will readily realise that the Company would occupy a leading place in any competition, where beauty of design, skilful workmanship, sound materials, and careful selection were required and appreciated.

EASTERN RATTAN.

Rattan is indigenous to Java, Sumatra, Borneo, the Philippines and some parts of China, but there is only one sort of rattan that is considered of any value and it comes from Java, Sumatra and Borneo. The rattan from the Philippines is of poor quality and unsuited for factory purposes. It is true that a species of rattan which is particularly suitable for making into walking-sticks is found in the newest American colony, but that is about all that can be said about it. At least, there are no signs that a high-class rattan is to be got there. Even if it were, the Filipinos are said to be so lazy that they would not take the trouble to prepare it for the market—and that they would establish factories to deal with it on the spot is out of the question altogether. The rattan found in China grows mostly in the southern districts, but it also is of inferior quality.

JAVA RATTAN.

Java sends more rattan to Hongkong than Sumatra and Borneo put together. It is a firm, plastic and reliable cane, which can be worked up into any design. Borneo rattan is coming to the front also, but it will take a pretty long time before Borneo becomes anything like a serious rival to Java. The rattan from the Dutch colonies goes in the first instance to Singapore, which is the distributing centre. The rattan is a clinging plant, and it grows to an immense length. "You will scarcely believe it," remarked Mr. Keeney, "but I have seen rattan 300 and 400 yards long." At which we expressed astonishment.

CHINESE RATTAN DRILLS.

The rattan used by the Harris-Keeney Company are obtained from the Chinese dealers at Wanchai and West Point. When the rattan

arrives at Hongkong it is practically in the raw state. All sizes and lengths are jumbled together. The Chinese dealers size it. Although he has been at the business for years, the Chinese trader clings to the antiquated methods of his forefathers, with the result that the sizing is done by the crudest methods. The rattan is pulled through steel plates in which holes have been bored and it is sized. Then it goes to the factory where it is again carefully sized, and the best pieces put on one side. So much for the rattan.

RAW LINEN FIBRE.

But since Mr. Harris came to Hongkong he has discovered a material which rivals, if it does not surpass, the ordinary rattan, and that is raw linen fibre. The fibre comes from the interior of China, and is a good deal more expensive than rattan, but the beautiful results which are obtained from its use in the construction of chairs, and the better class of work, amply compensate for the extra cost. The raw linen fibre comes in the form of ropes no thicker than a piece of ordinary twine, and its durability is beyond question. More than that, it takes on such a beautiful gloss, and is so easily coloured for decorative purposes, that its use is a distinct gain to the realm of art furniture. What is the difference, it may be asked, between the linen fibre and rattan? Briefly it is this, that whereas ordinary rattan lends itself to only a few designs, the linen fibre can be worked into all sorts of picturesque patterns, on account of its extreme pliability.

A COMPARISON.

It has to be observed that the articles turned out at the Shaukiwan factory are rather more expensive than those sold by the Chinese dealer. And it may be asked; why should this be so? Take the long chair for example, which we all know and appreciate. The Chinese chair rests, as a rule, on eight legs, none of which is of the same length. If the chair is wobbly, it is hardly to be wondered at. The braces are of bamboo, which is not the best material for distributing the strain. As a result, the braces lose their grip. The rattan strands give way and begin to unravel, and the chair collapses. On the other hand, the long chairs made by the Harris-Keeney Company, rest on four legs, placed at the top, and bottom, and the frames are of Malacca cane. The braces are strongly made, and reinforced by side braces which distribute the strain evenly all over the chair, so that when the chair is finished it is as safe and firm as a rock, although it still retains its elasticity and comfort.

CUSTOMER AND DEALER.

"The finish on one of our chairs," said Mr. Keeney, "costs more money than the native chair when it is completed." He tells a story about a purchaser who wanted a chair even before it was in what he calls its "finished state." Truth to tell the average purchaser might well think that the chair, even before it has been sanded and shellacked, and polished, and what not, was thoroughly well finished. At any rate this customer thought so. "I said to the purchaser," Mr. Keeney remarked, "you can have the chair as it is if you like but I tell you it won't last 50 per cent. as long as a chair would in its finished state." The purchaser was not to be denied, and the chair was given up. What the ultimate fate of that chair was it would be interesting to hear.

DESIGNING THE CHAIRS.

When a chair is to be made, the design is first drawn by Mr. Keeney who is what might be termed the business manager of the firm. The measurements are then prepared, and these are sent to the frame maker who is coached by Mr. Keeney in the requirements. The Chinese foreman, who, of course, is a walking encyclopedia, says he understands the idea right down to the ground, but occasionally it happens that as a frame maker he is a little bit off the base, so Mr. Keeney sets him right. The frame, then, is made, but it only serves as a model for other chairs of similar design. When the second frame is ready it goes to the weaver, who is equally certain that he knows all that is wanted. And he does as a rule, but we are all liable to make mistakes and the weaver is no exception to the general rule. When this second frame has been under the weaver's hands and is certified to be up to the requirements, it becomes a mould for the weaver, and remains in stock. So that it is not until the third frame is made and has passed through the hands of the weaver that it is on anything like a fair way to completion.

AT SHAUKIWAN.

The buildings of the Company at Shaukiwan are very extensive, but they have one fault. There are so many partition walls and staircases that a great deal of space is lost. The question has been under the consideration of the Company as to whether anything should be done to secure more accommodation, but nothing has yet been decided upon. There are two storeys above the ground floor and each is packed to its utmost capacity. When it is stated that the average number of men at work is 200, and the usual stock kept on the premises is something like 5,000 articles, some idea of the extent of the business done by the Company may be gained. And orders are flowing so fast that it takes the Company all they can do to keep up with the demand. The character of the work turned out is best exemplified by the fact that although heavy duties have to be paid in many of the countries served by the Company before their goods can be landed, they are able to meet these charges and yet compete with local firms which are protected by tariff regulations.

SKELETON WORK.

In the frame making department, the skeleton chairs are built. The Malacca cane used in the frame is a great advance on the bamboo, which is commonly employed. Malacca cane is easily manipulated and it can be nailed or screwed in a way impossible with bamboo. The bending process is interesting. A Chinaman takes up a roll of the leaves which form sugar baskets, and sticks it on a nail. He lights the roll and passes the Malacca cane over the flame, holding the cane in a wedged staff. By continually working the cane, he gets it into proper shape and when cooled the curve remains. Steam was tried at first, but it spoiled the wood and failed to retain the curve or crook which was intended. Then the Malacca cane goes through gelatin glucose which fills the pores of the rattan and renders it impervious to the weather. It should be added that the nails used in the industry are all tinned so that they may not rust.

WEAVING.

From the framemakers' shop, the skeleton chairs reach the weaver. In the case of a rattan chair a great deal has to be done in order to give the chair a good appearance. Ordinary rattan is fury, and if they were allowed to remain, as is on ordinary native-made chairs, the furs would be a regular harbour for bugs. But at the Shaukiwan factory, the chairs, after passing through the hands of the weaver, are taken to another room and hung on hooks which depend from the ceiling. A piece of cotton wool is then dipped in alcohol, lighted, and all the fringes are carefully burned out.

CHINESE CONSERVATISM.

In this connection, a rather interesting remark was made by Mr. Keeney. He stated that when he first started, he invented a handy little instrument to hold the flaring alcohol and he naturally thought that the Chinese work-

men would appreciate his thoughtfulness. Not a bit of it. They would have nothing to do with his invention. They had been accustomed to their own rough-and-ready methods and they intended to stick to them. He gave up his invention in despair and the workmen are happy in the knowledge that they are not dealing with any new-fangled notions. In other respects, also, the Chinese at Shaukiwan have shown their conservative ideas. Two machines, one for drilling and another for turning were brought out from America. They stand useless in the factory, because the workmen will have no "truck" with modernity. In fact, Mr. Keeney gave up his suggestions and these resulted in despair and the workmen are quite contented.

COLOURING THE FIBRE.

The rattan chair has to be "dipped" in a big bath of gelatin to fill up the pores, and afterwards it is "painted" with shellac which gives the gloss. In the case of chairs made of raw linen fibre or sea grass, these are stained in another bath and afterwards painted the colour desired. Green seems to be the favourite and it certainly appears to suit the character of these chairs to a nicely.

GALA CHAIRS.

With regard to the completed article, Mr. Keeney showed the prelminary a variety of chairs all built from his own designs. There were chairs with rockers—which are of camphor wood—office chairs which came to pieces for cleaning purposes, travellers' chairs which folded up like a camp bed, chairs with leather seats that could be removed, and chairs with linen fibre seats stuffed with raffia shavings. Several chairs had the frame work painted with aluminium paint—Messrs. Carmichael and Clarke's patent—and they looked exceedingly handsome in their gala dress. It is proposed at some time in the future to manufacture hard wood chairs and machinery will be imported for that purpose. An ingenious design was that of two Chinese hats, inverted, made into a lady's workbasket.

IN AMERICA.

The Company are turning out rattan and fibre chairs at the rate of a thousand a month, although if they were absolutely necessary they could manage to produce two thousand, which is not bad for what may be called a comparatively new business. Mr. Harris is the travelling manager and he has just completed a very successful tour through the Southern States. His office is in Seattle, but he intends visiting the Eastern States soon and may take a run across to London with the object of opening up connections there. The Company which Messrs. Harris and Keeney have started in Hongkong is one of the most flourishing in the Colony as it deserves to be, considering the amount of energy and solid hard work which the partners put into it.

THE LATE REV. FATHER TORRES.

14th inst.

At the Roman Catholic Cathedral, "Glencore," a solemn requiem mass, was celebrated this morning in memory of the late Rev. Father Torres, Rev. Father Gracia, vice-procurator, officiated, and was assisted by Rev. Father Augustin. The various Catholic institutions of the Colony were represented at the services; there were besides some French Fathers from Pekin. The church was, as is usual on these solemn occasions, draped in black.

A contributor sends us the following appreciative reference to the deceased prelate.

By the death of the Rev. Father Torres, the well-known and much esteemed Procurator General for the Spanish Dominican Missions in the Far East, a gentleman beloved by all who knew him, has been removed from the community. He was born at St. Maria, in the province of Palencia, Spain, in the year 1846, and after going through a two years' course of philosophy in the Seminary of Toledo, he joined the army of the great St. Dominic in September, 1866, and in the Convent of Osca completed the second course of theology and was ordained deacon. In consequence of social and political disturbances then reigning in Spain, when this second frame has been under the weaver's hands and is certified to be up to the requirements, it becomes a mould for the weaver, and remains in stock. So that it is not until the third frame is made and has passed through the hands of the weaver that it is on anything like a fair way to completion.

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Heavy-weights.—R. Gathhouse, P.O. 1st class, *Albion*, v. J. Lavus, P.O. 1st class, *Tamar*.

Middle-weights.—Pte. J. Kidd, *Albion*, A.B. Deveron, A.B. *Glory*, and H. Jordan, A.B. *Ocean*. These three men will draw, one having to box/bite.

Light-weights.—R. J. Clark, Gym. Ins. *Glory*, M. Rankin, A.B., *Albion*, and F. Curnen, P.O. or Class, *Glory*. The above men to draw, one also biting a bite.

Feather-weights.—R. Francis, A.B. *Albion*, S. Wilkes, A.B. *Suffit*.

Bantam-weights.—W. J. Pucksmith, *Tamar*, v. S. Wilkes, A.B., *Glory*.

To-night boxing should be of a very interesting nature as all men are sure to do their very best. We have heard that it is the intention of the following men to challenge the winners in their respective weights.—Halligan, A.B., *Vengeance* (Middleweights), Terry Armstrong, A.B., *Vengeance* (Featherweights), F. Wade, Ch. Web. Sig. *Hogue* (Lightweights), and Mickey Lacey, A.B., *Vengeance* (Bantam-weights).

15th inst.

Last Saturday evening saw the final bouts to determine the results of the naval boxing competitions, that have extended over three nights and interested many persons. The spacious and most convenient hall, housed a much larger attendance than on either of the previous evenings, those present comprising a great number of sailors and marines of the fleet, augmented by a considerable attendance from the Kowloon dockyard.

There was no loss of time in getting to work, the business commencing with M. Parkin, A.B. of *Albion*, v. R. J. Clark, Gym. Ins. *Glory*, who met this in semi-final bout for the lightweights. Parkin fed with a left swing at the head and both men closed up to about exchange, Clark working a straight left to good effect. His opponent faced the music and retaliated smartly and well. It was noticed they were doing their utmost to gain the points. The round closed with points looking pretty even. On the recall of time for the second round, they went straight to work, and here again Parkin scored with a clever left swing and right upper cut and got away without a return. Clark endeavoured to make up for lost time and pressed hard. Both men fought their best until time was called when favours were slightly with Parkin. Round No. 3 found them up smiling and smart, and after a short preliminary spar Clark tried a straight left, which landed, but his upper cut failed and before he had properly recovered Parkin fed with a left and right and, having got a solid blow, he was able to get away. On the third meeting, Parkin came up quickly and tried to even up matters, but could not make any headway against the attack. The round was fought out at a killing pace for Parkin who had to give way. On the third meeting, Parkin continued advancing, but could not find the right place or Parkin must have gone down. Parkin was declared the winner.

OUR RACE COURSE.

PREPARING FOR THE RACES.

NATURAL BEAUTIES OF HAPPY VALLEY.

15th inst.
The preparations for the forthcoming race meeting under the auspices of the Hongkong Jockey Club are being pushed forward with the utmost despatch, and already most of the larger works in connection with the races are well on the way towards completion. In some respects the Hongkong Jockey Club races differ very materially from those of other places in the East. The greatest difference is, of course, found in the fact that it is an amateur meeting, where all are gentleman riders. Again, instead of having horses specially imported for the occasion, the hardy little Chinese pony is brought on the scene; and those who remember past race meetings in Hongkong will readily admit that if the pace is not record-breaking, it is at all events wonderful, when the size and apparent stamina of the ponies are taken into consideration.

IN THE STRAITS.

In Singapore and the South generally the races are contested by specially-trained Australian horses. Nowadays, the horse required to win a race in the Straits, even when the purse is but a trifle, will cost anything between \$1,000 and \$4,000. The result is that the races are in the hands of a fortunate few who have the money to spare for this "sport of kings," and the average man has only the questionable privilege of squandering his hardly earned shekels by means of a pari-mutuel. Then, the jockeys are all professional men, whose whole life is devoted to the training and riding of horses, from the immature grunts to the fully-fledged animal. Occasionally a wonder is produced, such as Essington, for example, which carried off all the honours of the turf in the Straits, and the Malay States for a couple of years, and never knew defeat in a big race.

AMATEURS v. PROFESSIONALS.

In Hongkong, on the other hand, the races being promoted by amateurs and limited to amateurs, there is the certainty that we shall enjoy sport in the truest sense of the word. Without going into the merits of that much-vaed question, amateurs v. professionals, it can be said that for those who enjoy sport for its own sake amateurism has a charm which is not always to be found when professionalism is to the front. And the beauty of it all is that the commonest of common cobs, owned by the humblest stable, has every chance of romping home a winner, for the simple reason that it will meet its own kind on the field, and not animals of a special strain which from their birth have been nurtured for the occasion.

AT HAPPY VALLEY.

But in another respect Hongkong is especially favoured, for in Happy Valley we have a natural race course. It may be that in some far-off glen in the wilds of Australia, or in the heights of the Argentine, there is a rival to Happy Valley; but it is to be doubted. The view itself is a panorama, ever changing, ever beautiful. Enclosed on three sides by lofty hills, and with a view of the sea on the fourth, any of the verées which make up the song of "Killarney" might be applied to it were one in a poetic vein, but poetry and horse-racing are not exactly an agreeable couple.

RACE COURSE FROM A SWAMP.

When it is remembered that Happy Valley was once a swamp, as foul and treacherous as any Irish bog, and that to-day it is one of the picture spots of Hongkong, the remarkable change will be appreciated. Where cricket and football are now played were the Hongkong gardens, but they have passed away, and like the flowers that bloom in the spring have nothing to do with the case. The swamp was drained, and now there are two courses, the inner course—a gravelly soil—being utilised by ordinary riders who wish a short canter; and the outer, which is of fine soft turf, almost as easy to the feet as English turf, for training and racing purposes.

PREPARING THE COURSE.

A visit to the course the other day showed how carefully the Jockey Club Stewards, with their indefatigable Clerk of the Course, are getting the outer course into condition for next week, and it also revealed a distinctly Eastern scene, which although it would amaze people at home is passed by here as of no account, because common. The iron rollers were being dragged by twenty-two persons, twenty of whom were women! The roller was not exceptionally huge, but even Chinese women have not all the strength in the world, and the way they hauled that roller along the track was a sight to see. The Chineses, naturally, refrained from pulling the ropes; their duty as lords and masters was to encourage the weaker vessels by word and gesture, to whip up the flagging, and to cheer the weary.

THE PERMANENT BUILDINGS.

Up to the present time, the workmen engaged by the Hongkong Jockey Club Committee have been mainly concerned with the re-decoration of the permanent buildings—the Grand Stand, the stables, the enclosure, and the accommodation for the judge and stewards. A start was made last week with the erection of the extra stands, that for the Club Lusitano occupying the most prominent position, and as these are of the usual type adopted in Hongkong they should be ready for occupation in a few days. But, of course, a good deal remains to be done.

NEW STANDS ERECTED.

Starting from the north-western point, five large stands are in course of construction. Built up on slender poles, to the height of about twelve feet, the stands are firmly secured and roofed over with the usual matting. To the inexperienced eye, and to the stranger, the stands might seem to have a somewhat rickety and unstable appearance, but those who know what the Chinese can do in the way of binding poles together and the wonderful elasticity and strength of these structures, will be quite confident of their security. There is no fear of an Ibrox Park affair at Happy Valley.

ACCOMMODATION FOR 7,000 PEOPLE.

Four of the stands, one of which is exceptionally large, should easily accommodate 4,000 people. There is another, rather smaller, next to the Grand Stand which appears to be set apart for special purposes; while at the far end of the stables there is a large erection which will be occupied by the Hongkong Hotel, and devoted also to other purposes. Altogether there are twenty sections, and it is roughly estimated that the entire circle of stands, including the Grand Stand itself and the owners' stands over the stables, should provide accommodation for 7,000 people. The hot-potato can spend their time and their money too, doubtless, in the centre of the course, or they may climb the neighbouring hills, and watch the races in comfort and peace. Indeed, it appears that a goodly number of people, whose nerves have already been shaken by the din of the Chinese New Year, prefer to enjoy the race meeting from some vantage ground on the hills, and to make a picnic of the event.

AT THE STABLES.

The stables are exceptionally roomy and well-arranged. The names of the owners who have up to date taken stalls are placarded on the various stalls, but a good many stalls have yet to be taken up. The following is a list of the owners whose names are ticketed on the stalls, together with the number of stalls which they have declared it is their intention to occupy:

Mr. W. J. Gresson, 14 stalls;
Mr. H. N. Mody, 11 stalls;
Mr. T. F. Hough, 5 stalls;
Mr. H. P. White, 8 stalls;
Mr. Clarke, 2 stalls;
Mr. "Griff" 1 stall;
Mr. Mackie, 1 stall;
Mr. K. Wible, 2 stalls;
Mr. D. Macdonald, 4 stalls;
Mr. G. C. Maxon, 2 stalls;
Mr. John Jupp, 1 stall;
The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Juniper Moss, 1 stall;
Mr. Britton, 1 stall;
Mr. G. H. Potts, 4 stalls;
Mr. Kennedy, 8 stalls.

The facilities for allowing the horses to be led from the stables to the course are admirable. Each horse is led along a wide central passage to the rear of the Grand Stand, and a clear thoroughfare is afforded to the entrance of the course. The stables are well ventilated, and the sanitary arrangements are all that could be desired. The entire building has been re-painted and looks as bright as a new pin.

THE GRAND STAND.

The Grand Stand remains as it was before, with the exception that it has been re-painted and re-decorated. Even the weather-cock above the ornamental dome has been re-gilded. It has been remarked that if the weather-cock could point out what is to win as easily as it shows the direction of the wind there would be few people looking at the horses. The staircase and approaches have been painted and altogether the Grand Stand is a credit to the Hongkong Jockey Club. Indeed, there are few grand stands in the East which can equal that at Happy Valley. At Singapore the members' stands are very bleak affairs, and so separated that it is a sort of day school to go from one end to the other. Bangkok Sporting Club have a very elaborate building, but few would assert that it is equal to the range of buildings in Hongkong. At Shanghai extensive improvements are being made in respect of the buildings on the race course. Taken altogether, then, it may safely be maintained that Hongkong's Grand Stand and race building—say nothing of the magnificent scenery around Happy Valley and the delightfully sheltered spot which the course occupies—are at present, at any rate, the best in the Far East, from whatever point of view they may be considered.

GENERAL REMARKS.

One feature, which should not be overlooked, is the excellent system of distance posts. The distances at which they are placed round the course are clearly shown in large figures, so that the jockey is not obliged to strain his eyes when a post loun is in sight. More than that, the spectator who may stroll round the course to see the start of a short distance race has no difficulty in finding the whereabouts of the proposed start. To finish with the judge's box where all races finish, and the stewards' stand, where all race questions are settled, it has only to be said that these are placed in their old position directly in front of the Grand Stand. They have been painted a dull red, in keeping with the general colour tone of the buildings. There is no doubt that the Committee of the Club, or those responsible for the preliminary arrangements, have carried out their duties conscientiously and well. To Mr. T. F. Hough, the Clerk of the Course, every praise should be given for the able manner in which he has superintended these preparations which will best be appreciated when the races start next week.

SOLDIER'S FATAL FALL.

15th inst.

A sad occurrence took place on the 7th inst., whereby a private of the Royal West Kentis lost his life. From the report subsequently made to the Police, it appears that Frederick Hicks, Private No. 1483 of the above Regiment, obtained leave of absence until midnight on the night in question, and, with a companion, went out to spend the evening. At about 11:45 p.m. the two men returned to Murray Barracks, and after reporting themselves at the guard room, went to their quarters, deceased, according to his custom, lying down on a bench in the verandah of the second storey, just outside his room, and there, it is supposed, fell asleep. At about 1 a.m. on the 8th inst., the sentry heard the dull thud of a fallen body, and on going to the spot, discovered the deceased lying on the ground in a pool of blood. He was at once picked up and removed to the Military Hospital at Wellington Barracks, where, despite every care and attention possible to be shown him, he succumbed to his injuries at 10:30 a.m. on the 12th inst., the post mortem examination, which was held in the military hospital, disclosing the cause of death was contusion of the skull and internal hemorrhage.

The funeral of deceased, who was but 25 years of age, and a promising young soldier, took place, with full military honours, at the Protestant Cemetery, at Happy Valley, on the 13th inst. No report was made to the Police until at the time of making application for a burial permit, when the Coroner issued instructions for the usual police investigation. How the man fell is not known, but it is believed that getting up suddenly, half asleep, he fell over the verandah by over-balancing himself while standing up on the bench.

THE YOKOHAMA INSURANCE CASE.

A NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA CLAIM.

On the 31st ultimo the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Nakanishi, reported the *Japan Herald*, the hearing was resumed of the claim for insurance money brought by the National Bank of China against the Equitable Life Insurance Company. It will be remembered that the defendants do not dispute the claim, but desire that the Court should give a decision as to whom the money is to be paid in order that they may not be held further responsible. The plaintiffs were represented by Messrs. Sawada, and the defendants by Messrs. Masujima and Indeura.

Mrs. Masujima, for the defence, said that according to Japanese law only the heir of the deceased person had the right of claiming the insurance money, and therefore the plaintiffs had no claim. Counsel for the plaintiffs said that as the insurance policy was issued in New York the matter should be viewed in the light of American law. The deceased had not assigned the insurance money to anyone, and hence it was proper that the person having the legal right to it should claim it.

It was announced that judgment would be given on the 4th instant at 10 a.m.

ANOTHER FIRE.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Chinese New Year is, for the next twelve months at least, a thing of the past, we have another fire to record, in a Chinese tenement, as usual. An alarm had just previously to this outbreak been turned in at the Central Station of a fire in Wellington Street, but that turned out to be a false alarm, as it was only a chimney which had, as frequently occurs, become affame.

The second alarm was more serious, and the Fire Brigade, under Chief Inspector Baker, immediately repaired to the scene of the conflagration, which was No. 89, Queen's Road West. There they found they had an easy task before them as Mr. P. Lenagan, of the Western Hotel, had secured "dispatch box" and with the assistance of two other Europeans had soon a good stream of water flowing on the burning building. Mr. Lenagan was formerly a member of local Police Force and Fire Brigade, and his professional instincts were strong upon him, so much so indeed that, on the arrival of the firefighters proper, he was very loth to give up charge of the operations in extinguishing the flames, and continued, nevertheless, to do his share in subduing the outbreak. The fire turned out not to be as very serious, as it was confined to the back of the upper storeys where it is supposed to have originated, the lower storey, a medicine shop, being left, with the whole of the front of the building, intact, though damaged by water. The damage was only estimated at a few hundred dollars, while the place was insured with Chinese for \$6,000. There is no doubt that to the prompt action of Mr. Lenagan was mainly due the confining of the outbreak within such small limits, and the prevention of its spreading to the neighbouring houses. The actual cause of the outbreak is at present unknown, though it is believed to have originated in a kitchen at the back of the second storey. The matter, however, is under police investigation.

PROFESSOR JENKS AND MISSIONARIES.

SERMON BY THE REV. C. E. DARWENT.

We take the following from the *North China Daily News* of 8th inst.

On Sunday evening last the Rev. C. E. Darwent preached a sermon at the Union Church with reference to Professor Jenks' Memorandum on Missionaries. Mr. Darwent took for his text, 1st. John xii. 46. "I am come a light into the world." He remarked that it was rather interesting to know what a man had to say about that vexed question of missions, and of course Professor Jenks wrote only from the political standpoint. His real opinions might be much more thoroughgoing. It was quite impossible to consider missions from a political standpoint. Were missionaries of Christ coming to China to ask if they could preach this and that and ask the mandarins what would suit China, and cut their messages to suit the Government? Could missionaries be like timid rabbits looking over a field to see if there was any danger? That could not be done; all ministers of the Gospel had marching orders which they had to obey. Professor Jenks said that everyone must admit that missionaries did a considerable amount of good. That was very faint praise indeed. The writer went on to say that nevertheless missions created disturbances. Of course they did. What truth could be introduced into any country without creating a disturbance, when light came to disturb darkness? It could not be helped, it was condition of progress. What, for instance, would we think when the hoe was applied to them? They would not like the disturbance, but nevertheless it had to be. The curious thing was that people had no objection to disturbances for secularism, railways, or disturbances due to opposition to the old trading methods of China. This reminded the preacher of a certain vicar of a quiet country church who received a letter from his Bishop asking him to a "quiet day." He replied, "My Lord we have plenty of quiet days down here; what we want in this parish is an earthquake." What China needed was a moral and spiritual earthquake. It wanted to burst the bonds of old superstitions, absurd customs, and false theories. "Ye must be born again." It was utterly useless for Governments and Consuls to object to disturbances of this kind.

Professor Jenks, writing on religion in China, said that missionaries were not to oppose Chinese religion just because it was Chinese religion. They did not do so. They opposed it because it was not true. The professor further said that if there were superstitions in the Chinese religion they could be got rid of and the pure gold would remain. To the preacher's mind this argument presented itself like this: there were two men who wanted some rice, and there was a great heap of rubbish with grains of rice scattered among tons of stuff. There was also a measure full of nothing but rice. What would be the use of someone telling one of these men to go and pick the grains out of the rubbish heap when there was a lot of it all together in the measure? Christ was the light of the world and included all truth. Why therefore should the Chinese be left to rake for truth in the mountain heaps of the rubbish of popular superstitions when the Truth was available? Were there no superstitions in the Chinese religion? What about the water god with the yellow body, eight hands eight feet, and eight eyes? What about the kitchen gods who went up the chimneys in such numbers at New Year time? What about popular Buddhism? It was all very well for Sir Edwin Arnold to give an account of an idealised Buddhism, but how did it work out as the popular Chinese religion? The stories of the births of Christ and Buddha should be compared. When Christ was born angels appeared and sang "Peace on earth, good will to men." That was worthy of the coming of Christ into the world. Buddha's mother, when he was born, saw an elephant with six trunks. The preacher went on to give other illustrations of Chinese superstitions, comparing them with the Gospel story, and showing that the search for truth among Chinese superstitions would be quite futile.

DISAPPEARANCE OF DALNY.

REBIRTH OF TAIREN.

It is significant to learn from an official announcement that on and after the 15th instant the name of Dalny will be wiped off the map of China and will be replaced by Tairen. This is the Japanese pronunciation of the Chinese name Taiyen, by which the place was known when held by the Japanese during the Japan-China War.—*Japan Chronicle*.

RAILWAY FROM PORT ARTHUR TO DALNY.

The railway communication between Port Arthur and Dalny has been restored by the Japanese and the line was opened to traffic on the 15th ult. That this was accomplished within two weeks of the Port Arthur terminus falling into hands of Japanese reflects great credit on the engineering skill attached to General Nagai's army. The length of the railway is 27 miles.—*Nagai's Press*.

SWALLOW.

ITS IMPROVEMENTS—AND WANT OF THEM.

20th January.

In my former article I endeavoured to show that Swatow had improved by developing a native police force and by repairing its bond, and had resuscitated its sports. I then began to look at the adverse picture and point out the danger of hydrophobia from the innumerable diseased worms that roam its streets. I shall, with your permission—touch upon matters equally pregnant with importance which deserve the serious attention of any Westerner that can bring about a reform. Let me proceed.

I understand that the Customs Authorities constitute the harbour guard of the local government. They seemingly cannot prevent the native boatmen from discarding all clothing directly the hot weather sets in. This does not refer to sampan men and their kin, but those that work for general purposes. They do not even wear a loin cloth. To add to this injury to common decency, not a classical study of beauty unadorned is to be found in the whole bunch. A Praxitiles or a Phidias would swoon if they beheld the anatomies presented to our eyesight. A doctor might be interested and instructed in tracing the corded veins and muscular tissues, he might even enjoy a professional revel in diagnosing the varieties of skin diseases, but it is the community in general I must think of. Steamers bring many women and children into the harbour, and I have the gentle sex dwelling amongst me. It causes an intense shudder to conceive that this spectacle of undress is literally paraded about upon the water of the port and no step taken to stop it, or if any step is taken, it is a very soulless one. Perhaps the women themselves may raise the question of the indignity they are put to, and for the sake of their children; but the wonder is that the missionaries are dormant. Why lose this opportunity of redeeming the natives from an uncouth custom without an ethical law to favour it? Why are they shutting their eyes tightly to a gross evil and allow it to pass year after year without bestirring themselves to overcome it? It is the severest and most tangible criticism upon their work of salvation that a part that has come under the influence of civilisation and their religions yet retains the mark of prehistoric ages or darkest savagery.

Next, it has been proved beyond controversy that rats are among the greatest disseminators of bubonic plague in the East. Incidentally I may mention that Dr. de Burgh Daly of Newchwang has shown me a beautiful collection of plague germs extracted from the vermin. Beautiful in the sense that the collection was complete and in various stages of propagation, under his care. This is conclusive that there is no shadow in regarding the plague of rats in Swatow as a public danger not to be trifled with. The place swarms with them and no drastic measures are taken to exterminate them. The rodents rush across the roads at night in numbers as great as their size. The belated stranger is at first bewildered and it gives him pause on his return from the Club. He tries to recall the label of the brand of whisky he has partaken of, during the last game to billiards, in case he should be led astray in imbibing more from that bottle in future, but he soon discovers that the verminous crowd is a reality. A policy of self-defence asks the community for a wholesale destruction because they undermine all the godowns and cause the bund to sink into holes that become men-traps until repaired. The godowns are now very groggy lot. They are maintained from collapsing in many places by shacks reaching across the street at short intervals, and the sight is picturesque; but not as it should be. It reminds one of Hongkong without the elaboration that the Crown Colony puts into its strengthening struts when a building bulges. If the owners are less ignorant about their valuable property it is not for me to complain, but it is a horse of another colour when the liability of a fearful calamity like the bubonic plague is apt to break out at intervals in our midst. A case has occurred when the servants' quarters had to be reconstructed due to death from the plague. The dead rats found beneath the flooring told the whole story of the fatality.

Smells are a portion of a Chinese city, but I expect something better when Western people have the handling of sanitary matters or can impose pressure to bear when necessary. Coleridge, in his day, tells us that Cologne could boast of two and twenty stenches, "all well defined, and several stinks. We have the same here, where they should not be. In the settlement there is an open drain that runs from a remote part of Swatow along the road past the British Post Office and behind the Customs Examining Shed. I have not had the courage to trace the source of this conduit because the task would be too unpleasant. In hot weather there issues from it "the rankest compound of villainous smells that ever offended nostril." Coalies use the sewer for general purposes and the flushing it gets from a high tide is an inadequate way of clearing it. I hope the new police will repair the cooile, but the smell is ever with us. Any cold weather we get merely alleviates it. The white people—or anybody that is doomed by force of circumstances to dwell in the houses facing and almost immediately over the conduit—must have organs insuined against typhoid and kindred diseases to enable them to withstand the noxious odours and concomitant germs. The suggestion made to divert the drain is met by another suggestion that the property holders shall share the expense, and with this clash of mind nothing is done to abate the nuisance.

I trust that now the port is arousing into activity in its political economy that this disgrace will meet the attention it deserves and be abolished. —*N. C. D. News*.

PORT ARTHUR REFUGEES AT SHANGHAI.

The stream of refugees from Port Arthur continues, and the passing of them on home-ward proceeds but slowly in comparison. The hotels and boarding houses have been full, as we have said, for days, and the question of providing mere roof accommodation for these poor unfortunate is one of great difficulty. There has been, says the *N. C. D. News* of 10th inst., increasing activity at the Russian Consulate and by

CHILDREN'S PARTY
AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

17th inst.
This afternoon the Governor (Sir Matthew Nathan) was "At Home" to his younger friends, at Government House, when 140 happy, smiling faces lined up to greet their kindly host. His Excellency was assisted in the entertainment of the little ones, by Mrs. F. H. May, Mrs. Villiers Hatton, Mrs. Gershon Stewart, Miss Noel, and Mrs. John Hastings. The ball room, with its approaches, had been tastefully decorated with flags, palms, and potted plants, elegantly arranged by Mr. J. Masters, of the Public Works Department, and Inspector Ritchie, stationed at Government House, and here the youngsters, after hearty welcome from His Excellency, played all sorts of indoor games until the ten-bell rang when, as a signal for them to go down to the supper room, where rows of tables had been very attractively laid out with all sorts of dainty things. Sounds of rejoicing and general merriment were to be heard on every side, while and after the cannonading of exploding bonbons, had ceased and the happy youngsters secured the quaint cap, masks and jewellery, which "Tom Smith's" best contained, they were led back to the "Theatre Royal," Government House, at the end of the ball room, and there were met by parents and friends to the number of about 120. Then began the *pièce de résistance* of the evening. After all had taken their seats, in gleeful anticipation of the "good show" in store for them, the curtain rose, and scenes from "Alice in Wonderland," and the fairy play "Prince Riquet, and the Princess Radient," were very prettily acted by a bevy of dainty little maidens, in costumed costumes, consisting of Misses Stella, Phoebe, Iris, and Diane May, Gretta Bunny, Marjorie Berkeley, Nancy Playfair, Gerty, and Hetty Tomes, Aileen Hastings, Reurka Bentinck, Jean Roberts and Sylvia Rose, under the stage-management of Miss John Hastings, who had also carefully and painstakingly instructed the juveniles in the histrionic art, which made the plays a complete success. After the curtain had fallen on the last scene, all the little "Fairies" came down from the stage, and after each had received a present from His Excellency, lined up behind the tables loaded with gifts, which ran down two sides of the room, and assisted, like fair godmothers, to distribute the presents to the other children, until each one present had received a choice and suitable gift according to his or her age. These presents His Excellency had had carefully selected and sent out from England especially for this function, and a very dainty and choice selection it was, the articles being suitable for all tastes and ages, and as their bestowed had been most carefully pre-arranged, each child got "just the very thing I wanted." In the meantime chairs were removed, and then dancing commenced, the young trippers entering into the thing with great zest, and a most enjoyable party is in full progress as we go to press. The music throughout the evening is being kindly provided by Miss Alice Berkeley, who untiringly presided at the piano all the afternoon.

A GRUESOME EXHIBIT
PRODUCED IN COURT.

13th inst.
This morning a strange tale was unfolded at the Magistracy, where Sergeant Appleton appeared to prosecute two men for causing grievous bodily harm, and attempting to rob by violence. It appears that Pang Ning was a creditor of the mistress of fishing boat No. 5968, to the extent of \$180, and on Saturday went on board to collect his debt. But the dame had not the wherewithal to liquidate her liability, and so Pang Ning announced his intention of "camping right there" till he got his money. He then proceeded to make himself quite comfortable and at home, "chowing" his share of the old dame's sto'c, and sleeping the night on board. Yesterday morning, shortly after two o'clock, Pang was rudely awakened by two members of the crew, armed respectively with a hatchet and wooden bar. These men said he had much money with him which he must give to them. The boat was then under way in Deep Water Bay, proceeding to the fishing ground. Pang protested that he had no money with him, when the two men, without wasting any time in argument, proceeded to do him up generally. With the hatchet they laid open his right shoulder with deep gash, and also his left arm, which was cut to the bone. Turning their attention to his face, they sliced off his upper lip. The boat was then close to Yau-mati, and the mistress of the boat landed and reported the occurrence at the Yau-mati Police Station, and stated that she and another woman heard Pang crying out "save life" and they went and found Lo Po Sheng and Lo Li assaulting him, and they pulled the men off. Sergeant Appleton then went to the boat with the women and arrested the men pointed out by them as Pang's assailants, while he had Pang removed to the Government Civil Hospital for treatment. As he was unable to attend Court to prosecute the case was remanded, pending the result of his injuries. The hatchet, the wooden bar, and the slice of the lip cut off with the hatchet, were all produced as evidence in support of the charges.

THE HOLLYWOOD ROAD
HOLOCAUST.

13th inst.
The further hearing of the charges of arson and murder against Chau Cheung and Tan Kok, in connection with the Hollywood Road fire, in which so many lives were lost, was resumed this afternoon before Mr. Gomperts at the Magistracy, when further evidence was given which included the testimony of Dr. Hunter who asserted that when he examined the bodies of three persons found charred in the debris of the fire they were not identified to him in the usual way. There were no relatives present but Inspector Gourlay was there, and gave their names as Chau Ching Chui, the woman, Wan Wai Hi, and Wan Wai Shing, the child.

The sergeant interpreter at the Central Police Station testified to the men making statements after their arrest. That of the first defendant was to the effect that he slept on the counter in the house and on the night of the fire woke up and found fire in the room and he ran out of the house. He did not set fire to the house, and did not know that there were any kerosene tins in the shop that night. He always puts out the lamps before he went to sleep. When he was woken up by the heat of the fire he went out into the street and called out "fire" and he was arrested, and taken to the station.—The second defendant's statement was to the same effect, and he added that he was then wearing the same clothes as he wore on the night of the fire.

The prisoners were formally committed to take their trials at the next Criminal Sessions.

QUARANTINE restrictions are still in force against Shanghai owing to the prevalence of small-pox at that port.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER
RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

INTERESTING LECTURE ON "FIRE TACTICS."

17th inst.
Under the auspices of the above Association, which now boast of 360 members, a most interesting lecture on "Fire Tactics" was given in the City Hall last evening, by Lieutenant Fieness of the Royal Wes. Kents, and followed with the closest attention by some fifty or sixty members of the Association who were present. Sir Henry S. Berkeley occupied the chair, and was supported by H. E. the Governor (Sir Matthew Nathan, K.B.E., K.C.M.O.) Hon. Mr. Gershon Stewart, Hon. L. A. W. Barnes-Lawrence, Rev. C. H. Hickling, Messrs. E. A. Hewitt, W. H. Trenchard Davis, H. R. J. Gomperts, J. J. Michael, A. Seth, Higby and many others.

The Chairman briefly introduced the Lecturer, who illustrated his most important points by capably drawn diagrams which he most lucidly explained.

FIRE TACTICS.

Lieutenant Fieness said: the subject of his lecture is, one I have found great difficulty in dealing with, inasmuch as so many considerations are involved in the term "Fire Tactics." The expression itself is not definite. All tactics are fire tactics in a certain sense because tactics are generally understood to mean the manoeuvring of troops into positions from which they will have the maximum effect upon the enemy with the minimum of losses to themselves. Fire Tactics in a more restricted sense may be taken to mean the method of application of the different descriptions of fire to suit the varying phases and requirements of an engagement, offensive or defensive. It is as far as possible in this sense I propose to try and deal with the subject.

All manœuvres in the presence of the enemy have but one end in view, namely, the acquisition of positions from which fire in greatest volume, and more accurately directed than the enemy's can be brought to bear. This end is attained by a variety of means the most important of which are as follows:—Intelligent use of ground, mutual support, selection of objective, correct estimation of ranges, careful observation of fire, concentration of fire.

DESCRIPTION OF FIRE EMPLOYED.

I think the best plan is to consider each of these separately so far as possible, but before doing so I would mention that—Intelligent use of ground, mutual support, selection of objective, estimation of ranges, observation of fire, concentration of fire, description of fire employed, and ammunition supply, are chiefly the duties of the officers, but concern the section and squad leaders in a lesser degree as well. I have considered the subject from the point of view of a force attacking an enemy in position. The slight difference which exists on some points from a defenders' point of view, I will, if time permits, deal with later. Intelligent use of ground is necessary because troops cannot be brought into the necessary positions to secure superiority of fire unless the conformation of the ground be carefully considered, all cover afforded must be utilized in order that losses may be minimized and the largest possible number of rifles available for the final stages of the attack, and that the demoralization of units consequent upon heavy losses may be avoided. The use of ground is also of importance in concealing the movements of bodies of troops told off to outflank the enemy, and to gain positions unseen from which covering can be employed. Mutual Support is I need hardly say, essential to success. In "Infantry Training 1902," section 213, you will find the following:—"It will seldom be practicable to move over open ground within the limits of effective fire, i.e., 1400 yards unless the advance of one part of the firing line is covered by the fire of the remainder; and in all cases when opportunity offers the advance should be aided by the fire of troops and machine guns specially told off for the purpose." "Combined Training" 1902 also tells us that—"The advance of an attacking force should always be covered by the fire of other troops, infantry as well as artillery. Not only must the commander make arrangements for the covering fire in his initial dispositions and also during the progress of an engagement, but leaders of all ranks down to squads and groups must endeavour to supply at all stages of the fight this all-important principle of mutual support. You will see by this what stress is laid upon combined action on the part of different units to attain one common end. To ensure this combination, constant watchfulness is required on the part of commanders of all ranks, as well as a perfect knowledge of the effects of fire and the powers of the weapon employed. The object of this covering fire is chiefly to demoralize the enemy, and spoil his aim at that portion of the force which is actually moving forward. In the majority of cases it will be found impossible to definitely locate a well concealed enemy until the shorter ranges are reached, consequently effect must be sought for rather by showers of bullets falling on, and about his position, than by individual good shooting against a visible target. It is obvious therefore that the braver the fire the more likely it is to disconcert the defenders and spoil their aim. Fire used to cover troops advancing over open ground should be of great authority during the time the advancing troops are exposed to the fire of the defenders, the fire being changed to a slower rate or discontinued altogether on their reaching cover and opening fire themselves. This assistance by means of fire should be rendered by portions of the firing line to other portions of the same body as well as by the supports and reserves. This will demand considerable self-sacrifice from the troops rendering the assistance. Human nature demands that if Smith hits you in the eye, you should try and hit Smith instead of retaliating on Jones who is otherwise employed. Yet this is what has to be done when assaulting another portion of the fire. The fire of the enemy directly in front must be disregarded, and fire brought to bear on that portion of the enemy's line which is most dangerous at the moment to the troops you are assisting. This description of support is of great value, as this fire is oblique and converging. Covering fire must be kept up by the reserve and supports if any one left until the assaulting troops are almost in the enemy's position; otherwise he might sit safely under cover to rise and deliver a crushing fire the moment the covering fire ceases, (also may be directed over against supports).

SELECTION OF TARGET.

The best results from good combination cannot be obtained unless those, whose duty it is to direct the fire, recognise the proper target to fire at, at any particular moment in an engagement. As a broad rule, if there is a choice of targets preference should be given to that, which, at the moment, is of the greatest tactical importance, or that, which from its size and position, is likely to suffer the most from the fire. No hard and fast rule can be laid down, only careful observation of the enemy's movements and constant watchfulness for opportunities of rendering assistance to other bodies of troops, can guide the officers and N. C. O.'s in deciding which object is, at the moment, of the greatest importance. For fire to be effective, it is necessary that the range of the object fired at should be fairly accurately known. This knowledge is obtained

in a variety of ways—by means of range finding instruments, by trial volleys, by maps and by estimation pure and simple. Range finding implements and maps cannot be easily used except at the commencement of an engagement; consequently ranges must be found by careful observation of fire. It must always be borne in mind that ineffective fire is worse than useless, because it encourages the enemy and disheartens the men who deliver it; and fire can only be effective when the range is known and some definite object pointed out to

CONCENTRATED FIRE.

The question of concentrated versus dispersed fire is one of great importance. Concentrated fire means the fire of individuals and units, often widely separated, directed on one common object, such as that portion of the enemy's position against which the decisive attack is to be pushed home; or as I said before, some object which is, at the moment, of great tactical importance, such as an attack by cavalry on the flank or a general counter-attack. The object in fighting is of course the destruction of the opposing force. The more thoroughly this is done the quicker will the campaign be brought to a conclusion. The moral effect of losses in battle is in direct proportion to the space of time in which they are inflicted. Troops whose morale is high enough to stand a loss of 50 per cent, spread over several hours' fighting, will be utterly demoralized if that percentage of loss is inflicted on them in, say, 30 minutes. I will now try and show how concentrated fire assists in inflicting a high percentage of loss in a given time. To illustrate this point, I will quote from Colonel Mayne's book "The Infantry Weapon and its use in War." He says:—"Suppose the statement is correct that, under field conditions of firing an ordinary man will fire on the average 30 shots before he will hit an upright enemy at 800 yards. Such a statement presupposes that the enemy will stand still in the open long enough for the 30 rounds to be fired at him; but this would not happen as the enemy would get under cover as soon as possible; and so to overcome this inconvenient procedure on the part of the enemy we must make 30 men fire at once on the single foe in the hope that one or more of the 30 bullets will hit him. There are also other great advantages to be gained from this action, namely, that when the man fires 30 rounds at a single for a very large proportion of his ammunition supply is expended and he has taken some time to do this, whereas when the 30 men fire together in the same man they have only expended one round each and have obtained the desired result at once." Fire is scattered indiscriminately along an enemy's position with little moral or material effect, but if it is concentrated on one or more objectives, the enemy's morale is shaken; and the question of moral effect is a very important one in war. Sudden and heavy losses inflicted on the threatening portion of his line is the surest way of weakening the defence, and these losses can only be inflicted by concentrated fire. The next heading, that of "description of fire employed," embraces the different rates of fire, Slow, Rapid and Magazine, and also the description of fire with reference to the position of the firer and the object fired at; that is, whether frontal, oblique, enfilade, or reverse fire, also the nature of the fire whether Volleys or what is called "Independent" Volleys. Volleys are seldom used now except against Savages who fight in close order, and then only at the longer ranges, and for range finding purposes. The use of ground is also of importance in concealing the movements of bodies of troops told off to outflank the enemy, and to gain positions unseen from which covering can be employed. Mutual Support is I need hardly say, essential to success. In "Infantry Training 1902," section 213, you will find the following:—"It will seldom be practicable to move over open ground within the limits of effective fire, i.e., 1400 yards unless the advance of one part of the firing line is covered by the fire of the remainder; and in all cases when opportunity offers the advance should be aided by the fire of troops and machine guns specially told off for the purpose." "Combined Training" 1902 also tells us that—"The advance of an attacking force should always be covered by the fire of other troops, infantry as well as artillery. Not only must the commander make arrangements for the covering fire in his initial dispositions and also during the progress of an engagement, but leaders of all ranks down to squads and groups must endeavour to supply at all stages of the fight this all-important principle of mutual support. You will see by this what stress is laid upon combined action on the part of different units to attain one common end. 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MR. D. R. LAW

OF MESSRS. BUTTERFIELD AND SWIRE'S.

Mr. Law, one of the head bosses in the Hongkong office of the China Navigation Co., was a tugh passenger by the south-bound steamer *Chingtu*. He is taking a tour through Australian ports and is bound thence to South Africa, where his company is said to be building up a big connection consequent on their recent contract for shipping some thousands of Chinese for the Johannesburg Mines. Mr. Law, says a Port Darwin paper, is described by a resident who met him as he was passing through, as being a keen business man "with an intellect like the trunk of an elephant—capable of picking up and retaining the smallest detail, or of grasping the heaviest and most intricate subject." If this definition be correct, Mr. Law is evidently what the Yankees would term a "cute cuss," and his present trip through Australian ports is probably being taken with an astute eye to future operations by his company Australiawards. He states that his Company is now building an immense dock in Hongkong, estimated to cost some two millions sterling. It is being built in accordance with British Admiralty regulations and is presumably intended to accommodate the war vessels of British or any other nationality, as well as more peaceful type of craft.

A SHOCKING disaster occurred on Monday, 6th inst., says the Foochoo Daily *Telegraph*, by the sudden bursting of a boiler on the native-owned steam-launch *Ting Mot*, which runs between Yung Min and Nantai. The number of serious injuries is roughly estimated as at least twenty-eight, all of which were taken immediately to the native Hospital for treatment. Thirteen cases have, we hear, proved fatal. Pending further inquiries at any rate we can only remark that from the outward appearance of several similar launches one might readily expect repetitions of such occurrences. If they are sound they are overcrowded.

"THE LAND OF THE SETTING SUN."

ITS PEOPLE, CUSTOMS AND TRAGEDIES.

17th inst.
At the Union Church Literary Club last evening, Mr. P. H. Holyoak delivered a delightfully interesting and instructive lecture on "Morocco: its people, customs, and tragedies," and illustrated his subject with a number of beautiful line-light views. Having briefly dealt with the geographical situation of the country whose name, he said, signifies "The extreme West, or The land of the setting Sun," Mr. Holyoak took his audience on an imaginative tour through some of the principal towns of this strange and little known country. Entering El Arach on a market day one found plenty to interest and to amuse. As though in vivid contrast to the pictures of the narrow and crooked lanes which pass for streets, strewn with filth and thick with dust, through which they had come up from the steamer, we hear almost with relief, he said, the discordant yell of Arabs, Moors, and Negroes—the braying of mules, the grunting of camels, the neighing of horses and the bleating of sheep. It is market day, and the natives from the neighbouring villages have come into Dardiche, as trading steamers know it, to dispose of their varied wares. We notice with mingled interest and disgust, a butcher auctioning his wares, which are so completely covered with innumerable flies, that it is difficult to discern what lies beneath. Upon inquiry we learn it is camel meat and as no camel is destroyed for food until too diseased for work, the prospect of such food is not enticing. Having referred to other kinds of food offered for sale by the butcher, the lecturer proceeded to describe the goods sold by shoemakers, the "fearful and wonderful" dishes of sweets to be seen in the market and the numerous and varied wares being sold by others dealers "all of whom offered their goods in so boisterous a manner, that a timid person might well be excused if he thought they wished to murder him, instead of sell him their wares." Indeed, in this country, he explained, one sees frequent instances of how men will all slay each other for a silver coin, worth less than a threepenny bit, and the bestial of "backsheesh" upon one of the many beggars who pester you to death, more often than not provoked a conflict which ends in tragedy. Mr. Holyoak then described the native snake-charmers, the gamblers at the roulette tables, and many other interesting scenes in Moorish life and after taking his audience by the Sultan's Palace travelled further inland to Rebar, a town of white towers and glistening minarets rising from the hillsides into a pure blue Mediterranean sky. There was much of interest that he had to relate concerning this and many other towns which we regret being unable to give in these few brief extracts from his lecture. Referring to the slave auctions which take place in almost every town of any size in the land, he said that, "originally coming from central Africa, most of them from Timbuctoo, forty days' journey across the blistering waveless inland sea of sand, with its eternal stretches of depressionless wastes, reaching on and on, past horizon after horizon, with but few oases between, where few Europeans could cross and live, whitened as it is with the blanching remains of even the children and the desert themselves, the miserable victims of that far-off raid, march, yoked neck to neck if they do, others to be ruthlessly sold to the highest bidder as the final goal. Of their awful sufferings during their terrible journey, who shall adequately speak?" Mr. Holyoak saw one of these auction sales and described it to his audience last evening. A middle aged woman sold for the equivalent of £7.10/-, a child of tender years feasted £3, and a girl of 13, a pretty dark-eyed damsel with graceful figure brought £15. From this scene of tragedy the lecturer passed to the interior of a Moorish prison where many forms of torture are practised amid surroundings of the most harrowing description, and thence to the corridors of the cloth bazaars, on through the tortuous windings of the pottery streets, and past the great Mosque, whence come the mutters of the prostitute believers, who in the frenzy of a wild religious exultation, implore, with bated breath the mercy of the Most High. On passing through the Soho, a man tall and bony is seen squatting playing on a *trom-tom* and a red instrument, while others, emaciated and cowering, are chanting in hollow voices, which sometimes rise to a piercing whistle. Suddenly the man kneels down and plunges his hand into a basket, withdraws it with a cobra in his hand, which he waves in the air. The serpent twists round his arm and the crowd recoils as he walks past. The cobra coils all over the man, who finally seizes its tail in his mouth, infuriating the animal which again and again fiercely attacks him, till the blood flows freely from the wounds. Replacing the cobra the man takes from another basket a large python, and allows it to envelop him with its ponderous coils, while he dances in frenzied fashion until he finally falls insensible, the man and the serpent one hideous mixed mass while the delighted crowd shower coins at his feet. Ten days travelling through, for the most part uninteresting country, save for distant glimpses of the Atlas Mountains 13,000 feet high, the exploration of which has been prevented by the lawlessness of the chief inhabiting them, these mountains alone, he said, are worth the journey to Morocco to see. Morocco cannot be described, it must be seen. More ghosts should stalk and more mysteries lurk within its walls than the mind of man can conceive. It is a city of gardens, palm groves, and fruit arbours. Beyond the wall which surrounds it, and on which heads are nailed after rebellions have been quelled there is a land of little shops, where the streets are roofed in overhead with vines, bamboo, or matting, and here a tumultuous multitude of whom no census has ever been taken. It is a transformation scene—a weird dream. One huge watch-tower rising to the sky stands in a vast empty space close to the Great Mosque, and the footstep of man is almost unheared, for few people pass this way. The design of the tower is said to be General Stoezel's of Jan. and translated in the *Chinese Daily News* of 29th Jan. Surely never before has a General issued such a lengthy order. "The nations, even in September, were astonished that we were able to hold out without support from the outside. Indeed, it is an exceptional record." "Only your glorious soldiers of the Czar, could have so endured." And again "An army more than a hundred thousand strong has been dashed and crushed against your breasts."

If this lengthy document be really General Stoezel's last order, to Russian Generals also ought to be applied the limitation that it was only with the suggestion should be enforced upon all English Generals, namely, never to make a speech. "Up guards and at them!" being quite enough for a General to say. Happily we do not hear of that skillful strategist but ill-starred General Kropotkin making any long speeches. But one short speech will probably remain on History's page. When the Japanese officials were bowing before General Smirnov at the railway station taking leave, and politely begging him to step into the same compartment in which General Stoezel was travelling, there sang out clear and distinct for everyone standing round to hear the curt reply, "I have nothing to do with that General." And Smirnov, who had worked day and night upon the ramparts stepped in with the common file who had done their duty, men smarting under the recollection that the first intimation they had received of the to them incredible surrender had been, when a week before they had heard that Madame Stoezel was packing her trunks. Does not Mr. Maurice Hewlett tell us that it is little touches like this that make History vivid. We can see the great, big General Stoezel with his foolish, unblushing countenance sitting comfortably in the special compartment, and the equally tall and fair, but spare, wary faced General Smirnov erect though crowded among his brothers in arms in another, only the planking of a compartment and a fierce hate between them.—Mrs. Archibald Little in *Shanghai Mercury*.

THE HONGKONG REGATTA.

SUCCESSFUL INAUGURATION.

18th inst.
The first meeting of the Hongkong Regatta took place this afternoon and proved a great success, both from a sporting and financial point of view. The formation of this, the latest addition to local rowing organisations, had the advantage of very strong support from the start. H.E. the Governor, not only displaying the keenest interest in the preliminaries, but himself offering for competition a valuable Challenge Cup, open to residents of Hongkong only. It was, therefore, not surprising that the initial meeting should have been fraught with all the conditions which ensure a successful outcome.

The course was an excellent one in many respects, but for the spectators, the implacable weather of the last few days made things very uncomfortable. A cold, piercing wind blew across the Harbour and the race viewing circumstances were far from exciting. The course was off Wanchai, from the Yacht Anchorage to the end of Causeway Bay; outside Kellett Island for races in Naval boats, and inside the Island for the races in light boats. The well known and comfortable Canton River boat *Kwong Tung*, was moored off Kellett Island, where the Committee dispensed hospitality to a large number of ladies and guests, and from which a splendid view of the racing could be obtained. During the afternoon the capital band of H.M.S. *Glory*, (by permission of Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, Captain, and Officers) played a choice selection of new and popular music. The general arrangements were in excellent hands, and everything passed off smoothly and well. The gentlemen responsible for the happy state of affairs were:-

Committee:- Col. L. F. Brown, (Chairman), Messrs. E. W. Mitchell, A. Chapman, G. A. Caldwell, F. W. Warre, C. H. Gale, H. F. Chard, (Hon. Treasurer) and E. R. Hallifax, (Hon. Secretary).

Officers:- Umpires and Starters:-Messrs. C. H. Grace, W. H. Potts, and Mr. Hon. Gershoni Stewart.

Judges:-Messrs. E. W. Mitchell, Com. T. L. Shelford, R.N. and H. P. White.

A start was made punctually, with the Gig race open to N.C.O.'s of the Garrison. Three boats turned out, but the West Kents secured a very easy victory. The pairs Randan Gigs produced a capital race between the three out of the fours entered, of which Musso's men landed the prize by a good two and a half lengths!

Some considerable interest was manifested in the Interport Fours, probably in view of the easy manner in which Canton disposed of Hongkong at the last annual meeting of the V.R.C. It was a capital start, but early in the race, Canton rowing a much quicker and more defined stroke, took the lead, and at Kellett Island had an advantage of quite a length. Thence onward Hongkong improved their rowing but could not come up to terms, Canton gaining the verdict somewhat easily by three quarters of a length.

The race for men-of-war's gigs and whalers brought out no less than eighteen boats, which was not surprising considering the imposing array of warships in the Harbour. It was a hard fought race the *Glory* men winning virtually on the post.

All four crews entered turned out for the Junior Fours, but owing to the fact that no launches were allowed to follow the race a very good view could not be had from the flagship until after passing Kellett Island. Then it was seen that Barlow and his men had matters entirely their own way, and they won, slowing down by several lengths from S. Gidley. Most of the oarsmen in this race appeared quite fatigued at the close.

H. E. the Governor (Sir Matthew Nathan) and party arrived shortly before the race for his Challenge Cup. The four crews entered, all turned out but the early stages of the race were not discernible for the reason mentioned. The cadets were soon out of it and the race, which eventually became a most exciting one, lay between the Garrison and the Docks, of whom the first named passed the winning post just four feet to the good.

Following are details of the racing:-

GIG RACE,-12.45 p.m.-Open to N.C.O.'s and men of the Garrison. Course 1 mile. First prize \$20; second prize \$10. Post Entries.

Royal West Kents 1

Army Service Corps 2

Royal Engineers 3

Time 9.13.

PAIRS RANDAN GIGS,-1 p.m.-Prize presented by Mr. E. W. Mitchell. Limited to residents of the Colony. Course half a mile.

Blue... 1

Red 2

White 3

STATION NO. 3-BLUE: R. W. Pearson, L. A. Musso. Cox: R. C. Witchell.

STATION No. 1-RED: E. Kempson, R.N., M. R. Bernard, R.N. Cox: McGregor Robertson.

STATION No. 2-WHITE: J. Witchell, S. Gidley. Cox: H. Gidley.

Time 4.36.

INTERPORT FOURS,-1.30 p.m.-Prize presented by the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G. Course 1 mile.

Canton 1

Hongkong... 2

STATION NO. 2-CANTON-RED:

1.-Bow: R. Leslie (12.7). Andrews, C. Allers (12.3). W. Imhoff (13.2). Cox: A. W. Purnell 10.5.

Time 6.50.

STATION NO. 2 HONGKONG-BLUE.

2.-Bow: C. E. H. Beaven (12.0). C. McI. Meiss (9.9). G. G. Franklin (12.4). F. W. Warre (12.5). Cox: G. A. Caldwell (8.5).

Men-of-War's GIGS AND WHALERS,-2 p.m.

Conditions as in Naval Regatta of 1904.

Course 1 mile. First Prize \$20; Second Prize \$10. Post Entries.

Glory... 1

Alacrity... 2

Ocean... 3

PAIRS CUTTERS,-3 p.m.-Prize presented by Colonel L. F. Brown. Condition as in Naval Regatta of 1904. Course 1 mile. First Prize \$40; Second Prize \$10. Post Entries.

Horus... 1

Hogus (barge)... 2

Vengeance... 3

Andromeda (Disqualified) 0

THE GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE CUP,-3.30 p.m.-Prize presented by H.E. the Governor for annual competition. For four oars. Limited to residents of Hongkong. Each boat's crew to be drawn from a single unit, which is defined as-A Regiment, a ship, a Corps, the Volunteers, a Firm, or any other body of Gentlemen working together at the same profession or calling. If any of the above units are not strong enough to provide a complete crew, then any combination of two similar units may be made. A Cup is not included in the definition of a unit.

Garrison Crew 1

Docks 2

Alson 3

Civil Service 4

STATION NO. 1-RED: THE DOCKS.

Bow: R. W. Pearson, F. O. Day, C. J. Cooke, J. Witchell. Cox: G. A. Caldwell.

STATION NO. 2-WHITE: A-GARRISON CREW.

Bow: W. C. Cooper, R.E., W. F. Holmes, R.W.K., G. Elgood, R.W.K., O. Y. Hibbert, R.W.K. Cox: F. Justin, R.W.K.

STATION NO. 3-BLUE: H.M.S. "ALBION."

Bow: R. M. Mack, E. E. Bartlett, C. F. Danby, T. J. Hallett. Cox: Rev. M. Mallineux.

STATION NO. 4-YELLOW: CIVIL SERVICE CADETS.

Bow: A. G. M. Fletcher, S. B. C. Ross, E. R. Hallifax, C. McI. Messer. Cox: J. R. Wood.

Time 7.15.

Owing to exigencies of time we were unable to publish a complete report of the very successful Regatta on Saturday. Continuing from the Governor's Cup, the Interport Pairs produced probably the most exciting and interesting race of the day, Hongkong winning amid the greatest enthusiasm by the narrow margin of two feet. The last race, the tubs, was a capital exhibition of strength and endurance, Imhoff winning from J. Witchell by half a length. Details:-

INTERPORT PAIRS,-4 p.m.-Prizes presented by Mr. H. N. Mody. Course 1 mile.

STATION NO. 2-HONGKONG.

Bow: G. G. Franklin, (12.4). F. W. Warre, (12.5). Cox: G. A. Caldwell, (8.5).

STATION NO. 1-CANTON.

Bow: W. Imhoff (13.2). R. Leslie (12.7). Cox: A. W. Purnell (10.5).

Time 7 mins. 55 sec.

OFFICERS' GIGS AND WHALERS,-4.30 p.m.-Race for officers of the Fleet in Naval Gigs and Whalers. Conditions, as in Naval Regatta of 1904. Course 1 mile. Prize presented by Major General Villiers-Hutton, C.B.

H.M.S. *Albion*... 1

H.M.S. *Glory*... 2

H.M.S. *Vengeance*... 3

H.M.S. *Hogue*... 0

TUB SCULLS,-Open. Prize presented by Committee. Course half a mile.

Station 1. E. Kempson; Station 2. L. A. Musso; Station 3. H. M. S. Holmes; Station 4. J. Witchell; Station 5. A. N. Humphreys; Station 6. W. J. Terrell; Station 7. W. Imhoff; Station 8. L. Duran; Station 9. O. Y. Hibbert.

W. Imhoff 1

J. Witchell 2

L. Duran 3

Time, 4 mins. 15 secs.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

At the conclusion of the races, the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. F. H. May.

H. E. the Governor then said: I have been asked by Mrs. May to express the great pleasure she has had in presenting the prizes this afternoon, and I do so with confidence and conviction, because I know that Mrs. May is never more pleased than when giving pleasure to others. The origin of this new Regatta, held to-day for the first time, was my desire to help as much as I could in a recollection of the time when I used to enter into two, three or four races. I consulted Mr. May, as I often do, as to how this should be done, and, in view of the number of events that were already under the Victoria Regatta, we thought it best that I should give a Challenge Cup for a four-oared race later on in the season, and, by so doing, keep up the rowing for a longer part of the year. I then enlisted the kind services of Colonel Brown, and all the gentlemen whose names are here on the programme, as members of the Committee; and, owing to their zealous work in the matter, the original race developed into a regatta which has given us so much pleasure and interest to-day. We all owe our thanks to Colonel Brown and the members of the Committee for all their work, and both rowers and spectators owe their thanks to General Villiers-Hutton, Sir Paul Chater, Colonel Brown, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, and Mr. E. W. Mitchell, who have presented prizes to be competed for. I should like to express a word of thanks to Mrs. May, but as I have been speaking to her I must pass over that privilege and leave it to someone else. (Applause.)

Colonel L. F. Brown said:-I am sure the Committee, of which you have nominated me president, are pleased when you state the Regatta which you have this day inaugurated has, on its first occasion, proved such a success. Hongkong is particularly well situated for rowing and sailing, and the large number of members of the rowing clubs and sailing clubs at Hongkong testifies to the popularity of aquatic sports in this Colony. I think it is Mr. Ruskin who says that "Peace brings forth the vices of a nation; and war brings forth the virtues of a nation." In a lesser degree I think that sport tends to bring forth the virtues of a nation. There is no doubt that the competitions which you have this day witnessed in the rowing boats—and also the sailing races which you saw sailed on that dirty morning of February 6th—bring forth many sterling qualities, qualities inherent in the British race, and which have enabled us to gain this island, and, by God's help, will preserve it to us for ever. I hope that this Regatta will be repeated every day, and that the Challenge Cup your Excellency has kindly presented will be competed for with renewed vigour year by year. I must now thank your Excellency for inaugurating this Regatta and for presenting the handsome cup; the patrons and stewards for their assistance and attendance to this Regatta; and the subscribers who have come forth so nobly in ensuring success. I must also tender my best thanks to Mr. Hallifax who has worked assiduously in preparing all minor details of the Regatta; also I must thank Mr. Gale, who, by a happy inspiration, selected this new course, which, I think is an excellent one; and Mr. Warre and Mr. Chapman, who superintended the racing arrangements. There is no man who understands this work better than Mr. Warre. His father has taught nearly all the oarsmen of England how to row, beginning at Eton, and following on at Oxford and Cambridge. The other members of the Committee I thank for the assistance they have given in the various departments. Lastly, but not least; I must thank the ladies for gracing with their presence this meeting, and Mrs. May for presenting the prizes, in recognition of which I hand her this. (Applause.)

The gallant Colonel then presented Mrs. May with a magnificent bouquet in a silver holder.

Subsequently an interesting presentation was made to Mr. G. A. Caldwell, the popular athlete, and who has been connected with almost every athletic event in Hongkong for over twenty years. Colonel Brown spoke of the untiring energy of Mr. Caldwell in promoting interest in local rowing and asked his Excellency to present him with two mementoes. These took the form of a silver box and silver cigarette case. H.E. having graciously handed them to Mr. Caldwell the latter suitably acknowledged the honour, and said he would always be prepared to advance in any way sport in Hongkong.

The proceedings terminated with the usual cheers and "tigers" for Mrs. May, His Excellency, the Visitors, etc.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

Following is the report of the board of directors to the ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the company, Queen's Buildings, on Monday, the 20th inst., at 12 o'clock noon.

To the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 31st December, 1904.

The net profit for the six months after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$37,015.63 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account.

\$505,471.73

and from this have to be deducted:-

Directors' fees \$10,000.00

Auditors' fees 750.00

16,750.00

leaving available for appropriation \$364,880.76

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 12% or \$30,000, and a bonus of 2% or \$6,000, in all \$36,000, be paid to the shareholders; that \$16,501.66 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, and the balance \$398,289.10 be carried to the new account.

The tonnage of ships repaired at \$18,000 per annum is attributed to temporary causes.

A large shipyard shed adjoining the ship-builders plant has been completed.

The electrical shop has been extended by removal of the galvanizing and sandblast plant to new quarters.

The entire foreshore frontage has been dredged by the Canton River to facilitate passage of ships alongside.

A large twin screw vessel for the Yangtze, and a survey vessel for the United States Government have been successfully completed.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. J. H. Lewis and the Honourable Mr. C. W. Dickson having left the Colony, Mr. H. P. White and the Honourable Mr. W. J. Gresson have been invited by the directors to the vacant seats at the board. These appointments require to be confirmed by the shareholders at this meeting.

In accordance with clauses 78 and 85 of the articles of the association Sir C. Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.O., and Mr. J. S. Van Buren retire by rotation, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Sir C. Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.O., has been re-appointed chairman for the year 1905.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thomas Arnold and H. U. Jeffries. The directors recommend Messrs. Arnold and Jeffries for re-election.

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18th February.
All this morning's gallops were over the grass course which was far from being fast. The jockeys were of opinion that it was positively slow.

Cutting rehearsed every one of the Kings, Scottish, with him in the saddle, the ball. All the Kings carried a light blanket on their backs girthed with a light bally band. The times were:-

Scottish King,	Umbrrian King,
1 mile.	1 mile.
39	36
40	36
38	35 4/5
36	31 3/5
31 2/5	21 2/5
3.05 2/5	
Saxon King,	Tuscan King,
1 mile.	1 mile.
32	36
35	35
37	35
34	33 2/5
2.16	2.19 2/5
K. O. S. B. (Johnstone),	Sport Royal (Clarke),
1 mile.	HIGHLAND CHIEF (Clarke); Alarm,
39	1 1/2 miles.
36	37 4/5
35	38 1/5
34	36 1/5
31	31 3/5
2.18	2.23 4/5
K. O. S. B. (Johnstone),	HIGHLANDER ("bny"),
1 mile.	1 1/2 miles.
39	36
36	25
36	35
33	38
2.25	35
POLKA (Greson), (1st); The Professor (Abel),	Blackbird (Vida),
Border Raider	inside course.
(Johnstone) (2nd),	1 mile.
1 1/2 miles.	30 1/2
35	32
35 1/4	32 1/2
37	1.04 1/2
34 3/5	
32	
2.54	
SOMALI (Hays),	Blackbird (Vida),
1 1/2 miles.	inside course.
33	32
34	33
35 2/5	31 1/2
37	34
35 3/5	32 1/2
2.55	

Times for Patrimony, Forward, and Wee MacGregor missed.

A sad accident befel our popular and extremely good natured jockey, Mr. Clarke. He took out Highland Fly to gallop with Wee MacGregor. On going up, the Straight the vicious pony bolted. All Mr. Clarke's skill in horsemanship could not control him, and the pony went full gallop right round the wrong course making a straight dash up the bridge and back to his stall which is in the last of the stables at the farthest end of the enclosure. All the while, Mr. Clarke was firmly seated in the saddle, but as the pony rushed into the stable, he was knocked against the wall and thrown off, unconscious, to the ground. No doubt, he had lost his wind. Mr. Macdonald (Highland Fly's owner) rushed up to where Clarke was lying and by means of ice restored him to consciousness. A Naval doctor was at once telephoned for from the Naval Hospital, who with commendable promptitude answered the call with a stretcher and bearers, in the person of two "Handymen." Mr. Clarke was then removed to the Naval Hospital.

Highland Fly is a fidgety sort of animal, often exhibiting symptoms of nervousness on the course, when he is given to the nasty and dangerous knack of "swerving" on what might seem to be like a pivot, if the expression be allowed. When he is led out he should be avoided.

To-morrow's final call will be intensely interesting. The first of ten ponies will be going out at six, and later at ten in the forenoon we shall see the last lot before the races on Tuesday.

FARLY BIRD.

From inquiries made later in the forenoon as to Mr. Clarke's condition, we were curiously informed by the hospital authorities that the accident was, fortunately, not of a serious character. Mr. Clarke sustained only slight concussion, and no bones were broken.

Later.

Just before going to press we made further inquiries and ascertained that Mr. Clarke was still confined to hospital where he is doing as well as can be expected.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.

CHINESE MANNERS.

To THE EDITORS OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."
Sir:—A question often heard in the Colony is, "Shall we learn Chinese?" The following incident, while supplying an answer, may point a moral. Three Britshers, young men of position, of decent quiet lives, and total abstainers, *been entreated*, went into what has hitherto been considered a respectable Chinese restaurant, in the Central District, and ordered coffee and cakes. They waited some considerable time, when growing impatient, and disinclined to wait any longer, one of the party called the "boy" and told him to hurry, up with that coffee. The boy, not thinking him, answered with the most grossly filthy abuse, and insulting language, when another of the party, who is somewhat of a colloquial Chinese scholar, and who understood what was said, sprang up and boxed the boy's ears. The latter shouted for the master, and the other boys all flocking around, they laid the first member of the party *hors de combat*, while a messenger was sent for the Police. The three gentlemen were charged with assault, and disorderly conduct, and were haled before Mr. H. H. J. Gonspitz, at the Magistracy, when, the case being called out, the prosecutor applied for leave to withdraw the charges, which was allowed. Only the fact of the position held by the young men prevented them from demanding that the case be proceeded with, in order that the disgraceful methods of these Chinese restaurant-keepers might be shown up before the public, and also from charging the man with using insulting and abusive language, and assault. This evidence goes far to show that most of us, the uninitiated, are all unconsciously, and no doubt, the subjects of this form of insult and abuse from the lower classes of the Chinese, with whom this Colony doth too much abound. What is it a disappointed Neksha coolie matters, when he finds a fare knows as much as he does as regards legal charges, and is not to be victimised into paying exorbitant fares, or others of the same

kidney? Perhaps it is well for them, bodily and peculiarly, that some of us do not know. Everyone knows how easily children pick up languages, and thus we must hear much, and understandingly, of what their parents wet not of. And this goes to show that for this, if for no other reason, this Colony is no place for foreign children, when Chinese servants are a necessary evil. Where a public benefit is to be conferred, nobody should stoop to consider ought but the bringing to punishment, at the hands of the law, of offenders in this way, at whatever cost in inconvenience to themselves—more especially for the protection of our women and children; for no doubt when a few of these foul-mouthed brutes have been severely dealt with by law, the deterrent effect it will have on others will beneficially reduce, if not altogether eradicate, the evil. No one who has heard of what Chinese abusive language consists can avoid a strong desire to stamp it out of our midst, even by especially severe legislation, if necessary. In this respect we might do well to take a leaf out of the book of our fellow-exiles in India, and allow their excellent example, in enforcing, as a first principle towards the public peace, a thorough and complete respect if only outwardly for all white people; any dereliction from this line being severely punished on complaint of the aggrieved party. Such action in this Colony is daily growing imperatively necessary.—Yours, etc., ANGLO-SAXON.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1905.

To THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR.—Referring to the letter of "Anglo-Saxon" in your last issue, I would like to call attention to another specimen of the "manners" of the lower classes of Chinese traders of this Colony, which came under my observation only last evening. Accompanied by a lady I went into a tailor's shop in Queen's Road, to make some purchases of trifling details of the male toilet, when a Chinaman with a lighted cigarette in his mouth, and without removing the same, accosted us with "what you want?" Thinking his had merely overlooked the presence of the cigarette, and would at once remove it, I merely asked to be shown the articles I required. The man reached down several boxes, and with the cigarette still blowing out wreaths of smoke, proceeded to command their contents. Without glancing at the articles I asked the man if he usually served his customers with a cigarette in his mouth. He merely turned his grinning face to me without a word, and still puffing at his cigarette, proceeded to display more opened boxes. I then told him he could save himself the trouble and could put up his boxes, as I should go to look for another shop where the Chinese traders knew how to behave themselves towards Britishers, in a British Colony, as I was unaccustomed to being served by a tradesman who was too boorish to put aside his cigarette when attending upon a customer. I am glad to be able to admit, however, that I found just the shop I wanted but a few doors farther up, and there I made my purchases. On returning in the direction of the Hongkong Hotel a further sample of Chinese manners was shown to us where a Chinaman deliberately walked past my lady companion, almost treading over her feet in crossing, and so busily as to knock a small parcel she was carrying into the gutter. The temptation to kick the lout was almost irresistible, but I quelled it, as I declined to descend to his level. What are our schools doing in this Colony if they cannot inculcate some semblance of good breeding and attention to deportment and good manners into the minds of the youths of to-day, who are as so strictly said, the men and leaders of tomorrow?—Yours,

A BRITISHER.

Hongkong, 17th February, 1905.

ST. ANDREW'S, KOWLOON.

At the Kowloon Institute last evening a meeting was held to discuss the affairs of the new church, and to consider means for securing fittings, etc.

His Worship, the Bishop of Victoria, who had convened the meeting presided, and there were also present the Revs. F. T. Johnson, J. H. France, F. Icely, and Messrs. E. Osborne, A. Fryer, E. C. Wilks, E. C. Lewis, and others, among whom were several ladies interested.

After the plans of the church had been handed round, the Bishop said that the meeting was called to talk about matters connected with the new church. As they already knew, Sir Paul Chater had made a present of this church to the Colony, and the church was now in process of erection, and there was every reason to hope that on St. Andrew's Day they would be able to consecrate St. Andrew's Church. A deed of trust had, among other things, to be drawn up, and the idea was to invest it with the Cathedral Body, with a vestry at Kowloon, by whom the affairs of the church would be governed, the deed of trust being so held as to prevent it from being alienated at any time for any other purpose. To have a vestry they must have a congregation, and the speaker hoped soon to have both. The trust deed, when drawn up, would be made part of the consecration service, and held by the Bishop of the Colony. Then there was the question of the Chaplain, and for this the Cathedral Body had arranged to contribute for three years the sum of \$3,000 as part of the Chapel's stipend, he also working for the Cathedral when required, until the Kowloon church could run alone when his connection with the Cathedral would be severed, and he hoped that that would be before the three years were up. Then there was the question of the internal furnishings and lighting, and these required planning and subscription. His idea was to form a small representative committee for this work, and there were no doubt several persons, like himself, who would wish to give some of the furnishings to the church. Details could not of course be decided at a meeting like this; they must be left to such a committee, to which ladies should be invited to join that they might aid by their knowledge.

The Rev. Icely said that so long as a naval Chaplain was connected with the Church the Naval Communion Plate could be used, and he asked the committee to keep this in mind as he would not be in the Colony himself. The Rev. F. T. Johnson then proposed that the committee be formed, consisting of His Lordship, the Bishop of Victoria, Rev. G. Gordon Vaudin, Rev. F. T. Johnson, and Messrs. A. Bryer, J. C. Lowe, J. P. Plummer, E. C. Wilks, E. Osborne, E. C. Lewis, W. King, and Dr. J. H. Swan.

After discussion it was decided to add the names of Messrs. W. C. Jack and J. Welsh, which was carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

FAVOURABLE report has been made by the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives on the bill revising the tariff schedules of the Philippine Islands. This bill, intended for the modification of the local Philippine tariff in harmony with the needs of the situation in the islands, is the one that was prepared by the Philippine Commission, and no material changes are contemplated in it by the committee. It is probable that the measure will pass both houses as it stands, and it raises no issues that affect the United States.

THE P.S.A.

ITS AIM AND OBJECTS.

AN INTERESTING INTERVIEW.

16th inst.

Few addresses have aroused so much discussion and comment in Hongkong as that delivered by the Rev. C. H. Hickling at the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon meeting last Sunday. Given on the spur of the moment, it infused new life into the gathering; but it also did more—it brought to the knowledge of the public the aims and objects of the P. S. A. In Britain the P. S. A. movement is a recognised institution, almost on a par with the Salvation Army so far as popularity is concerned. And the broad-headed ideas which are allowed full scope in the P. S. A. would induce the most hard-hearted, not to say the scoffers and the cynic, to support the scheme. In a place like Hongkong it is difficult to raise anything like enthusiasm unless there is something which corresponds to a totalitator or an earthquake connected with it. But the P. S. A. has come to stay, simply because the originators are enthusiastic. It was the result of a desultory conversation between a couple of Manchester men that the P. S. A. started, and unless Manchester men—who are really half Scotsmen and must certainly have been border reivers in the old days—have lost their vim and power the movement in Hongkong is bound to prove a success.

It has been suggested that the P. S. A. here is a service affair, but that is an entirely erroneous idea. It is conducted on the lines which have made these meetings popular all over England and Scotland. They have been subjected to a good deal of criticism, which is usually adverse, but those who have attended a P. S. A. have nothing but good to say of the gatherings. "It has been said that all the colonies think imperially; it should also be said that they think conservatively—using the word even in the political sense. And in Hongkong a P. S. A. is an innovation, consequently speculative."

With the object of learning the Rev. Mr. Hickling's views on the subject, representatives of the Hongkong Telegraph called upon him to-day. He was busy in church at the time—an older old idea exploded, for it used to be thought that a clergyman only worked on Sundays and, of course, we can all make a speech. The P. S. A. should be stated, is primarily the result of Mr. Hickling's efforts.

"One day I was talking to Mr. Holyoak," he said, "and we happened to talk about the people who have nothing to do on a Sunday afternoon. 'Why not start a P. S. A.' said Mr. Holyoak, and to come to the point we started it."

The Rev. Mr. Hickling told how he wrote to Mr. Bowley, got the theatre, and arranged the services. He went to the chaplain of the fleet and got their support. "This is no Union Church affair," he was careful to state. "It is a denominational." The Admiral was the most enthusiastic man that was met.

"Shall I signal to the fleet every Sunday?" he said.

"I want no pressed men," Mr. Hickling replied.

"Well, what about a subscription? I can—" "We trust that the scheme will be self-supporting, and if subscriptions are necessary then we will think over it."

As a matter of fact, speaking privately, the originators of the scheme have defrayed all expenses and are still prepared to maintain the work. The whole point is that nob. dy. who is not willing should attend these meetings. It was suggested that the introduction of the feminine influence might have a marked effect on the attendances. Mr. Hickling humorously observed that there could be no doubt on that score, because when ladies attend they kept the male element up to the mark. In fact, they compelled the gentlemen to attend, and recognising that fact he had decided to have a "Ladies' Day." Next Sunday is a "Ladies' Day," and the speaker is the Rev. G. H. Hickling. It was also suggested that a choir might be formed, and the originator agreed, but procrastinated. "It will come," he said, "which is not equal to *Caser's veni, vidi, vici*.

Among the ideas which Mr. Hickling mentioned was that of having a special day for each of the battleships on the station. For instance, Sunday first is the *Glory's* day; the following P. S. A. will belong to some other ship, and anybody who knows sailors is well aware that they are in the height of their glory when there is a song ahead. Last Sunday, for example, they appointed their own musical directors, sang their own songs (from Sankey and Moody) and conducted the proceedings as they thought best. The poor civilian, sitting out in the cold, had no voice in the matter at all. That was, of course, before the formal proceedings commenced. Every sailor sang with a gusto which belongs peculiarly to the "boys" in navy blue."

The great point to be borne in mind is that the P. S. A. is non-denominational; it is as Mr. Hickling repeated no "Union Church affair." And the fact that the Admiral of the Fleet and the Bishop of Victoria have both expressed their concurrence with the movement should place it on a pedestal beyond the "scions and Jeats" of people in Hongkong.

Be it prosaic, next Sunday is the "first monthly open event" for ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Ratcliffe, R.N., will preside. Rev. C. Hickling will give a short address, and a musical trio will be supplied by Mrs. Brand, Mrs. Edwards, and Mrs. Stubbing.

14th inst.

Mr. G. H. Potts, of the firm of Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly & Potts, returned to Hongkong to-day after a tiger-hunting expedition to Pakhoi. The trip promised to be of an adventurous character, because during the past few weeks the district surrounding Pakhoi has been infested with man-eating tigers whose capacity and ferocity have scared the natives almost out of their wits. Leaving Hongkong at the beginning of the Chinese New Year, Mr. Potts was joined at Pakhoi by Mr. F. H. Bell, of the Customs. A likely neighbourhood, where tigers were said to be plentiful, was scourged by the sportsmen for several nights, but the elements were against them. There was no moon, and the nights were exceedingly dark with the result that it was impossible to work satisfactorily. That there were tigers in the vicinity was proved beyond the shadow of a doubt by the fact that one of the dogs belonging to the party was pounced upon by a tiger and carried off to its lair. Once a tiger was seen in the thicket by Mr. Potts, but before a shot could be fired it had disappeared. The result of the expedition was therefore *nil*, much to the chagrin of the sportsmen. It may be added that Mr. Bell has been on several tiger-hunting trips and has got trophies to show as the result of his journeys. He was badly maimed on one occasion, not so very long ago, by a tiger which took him unaware, but he managed to escape without serious injury.

17th inst.

THE "ADAMASTOR" TO ENTERTAIN.
Invitations have been issued by the Captain and Officers of the Portuguese cruiser *Adamastor*, to a *réunion* to take place on board to-morrow, Sunday, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Launches will leave Blake Pier at 2.30 p.m. to convey the guests on board. This party will be of the nature of a tea party, with an informal concert, and is given in return for the hospitality extended to the hosts during their stay in the port.

14th inst.

THE "TIGER-HUNTING IN PAKHOI."
HONGKONG SPORTSMAN BAFFLED.
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the 24th December. The *Shantun* is a two-decked, steel, screw steamer, of 2,732 tons, net, register and was built and engined by the Scott's Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Ltd., of Greenock. The principal dimensions are: length, 267 feet; breadth, 40 feet, and depth, 12 2 feet. Her forecastle deck is 34 feet in length and the bridge deck 50 feet. She is fitted with triple expansion, surface condensing engines, with cylinders 21 in., 34 in., and 56 in. in diameter, by 39 in. stroke.

INCIDENT ON "Z FIRO."

According to Manili exchanges of 8th inst., a Japanese steerage passenger on the steamship *Zafra*, who was being detained on that vessel owing to a very infectious eye disease called trachoma, escaped from the ship. The medical officers are careful, in regard to admitting immigrants suffering from this disease to the country, and this man was to be returned to Japan. The only trace of him which could be found was a line over the port side of the ship, indicating the man had of his escape. It is supposed that some of his friends ashore knew of his detention and sent a bancha out for him or engaged the services of some Japanese fisherman. There is a heavy penalty for allowing detained passengers to land, and although Captain Rodger took the usual precautions in the case, he is liable to be fined \$1,000 as a result of the man's escape.

DISLOYAL CONTRABAND CARRIERS.

The masters of foreign steamers captured by the Japanese are reported to have said that they entered into agreement with their Russian employers by which each vessel received \$40,000 for its services, \$10,000 at the port of departure and the balance at Vladivostok. There remain stories current of the disloyalty the Russians are being treated by those they employ to carry contraband to Vladivostok. It will be remembered that several steamers have been captured in the Tsushima Straits on their way to Vladivostok. To the landsman nothing appears more certain than that steamers should be captured when passing through these straits, but it is alleged that captains carrying contraband desire nothing more than fall into the hands of the Japanese. It is asserted, says the *Japan Chieh-shie*, that from the captain down the crew have received handsome "consideration" from the Russian agent at Shanghai, and the agent having already placed in the bank a sum which easily covers the steamer's value the mercenaries have nothing to lose by steaming into Asao instead of Vladivostok. Probably the stories are baseless, but it is certainly remarkable that so many vessels laden with contraband have chosen to pass through the Tsushima Straits.

DISABLED STEAMER

TOWED 200 MILES TO HONGKONG.

16th inst.

A rather exciting adventure befell the steamship *Mertonshire* this morning. The weather was very bad, and when a vessel was discovered flying signal of distress, it was thought that no means could be employed to render assistance. It turned out that the vessel was the steamship *Oscar II*, of Bergen, whose main shaft had broken. The officers of the *Mertonshire* tried to reach the vessel by means of rockets, but these failed. The third officer, Mr. Smithers, then gallantly volunteered to take a boat to the distressed vessel, and after great difficulty he succeeded in getting alongside the *Oscar II*. So rough was the sea that the crew of the lifeboat had the greatest work before them to prevent the boat capsizing, and on two occasions it seemed as if nothing could avert disaster, but Mr. Smithers managed to get alongside the ship. Even then danger was apprehended from the tossing of the *Oscar II*, but the skilful maneuvering of the lifeboat saved the situation. A line was sent aboard, after a great deal of trouble, and the *Mertonshire* proceeded on her voyage to Hongkong with the *Oscar II* in tow. The *Mertonshire* arrived here at noon, when the *Oscar II*, which had been towed something like 200 miles, was safely anchored.

The crew of the British steamer *Bowry*, recently seized by the Japanese and taken to Sasebo, have been released by the authorities and sent to Nagasaki. The crew consists of six English officers, a German, Swiss, and thirty-five Chinese.

Captain Hauer of the German s.s. *Hohnstien* reports:—"On a voyage from Soerabaya to Hongkong the vessel struck in Macassar Strait in 5° 26' South and 118° 50' E. of Greenwich with an uncharted coral rock. The Light of Dayan Dayang bears E. by N. magnetic, distance 16 miles off."

The Glasgow *Herald Shipbuilding and Engineering Annual* for the past year gives some very interesting information regarding the progress of Colonial shipbuilding in various parts of the British Empire. Speaking of Canada that journal says that progressive as that country is there are more hopes of shipbuilding in other and more outlying portions of the Empire. In the report of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, for instance, there may be noticed a large steamer. This vessel is the largest yet built at the port and a few years ago the Company would have hesitated very much before attempting such a contract.

But now they can take such orders and can compete with other builders in any part of the world, in spite of the fact that all materials have to be imported. The vessel referred to is the *Kin Ling*, which is of 3,700 tons register and 1,600 I. d. P.

THE "SHIRLAWSBURY."

17th inst.

The salvage party to recover the *Shirlawsbury*, and later to attempt to extirpate the *Baron Gordon* from the Bonny Shoal, left by the *Progress* this morning. The party, under Capt. Owen Wilks, is well equipped with appliances and a skillful personnel as detailed by us the other day. It is to be hoped that success will attend the expedition.

GOING HOME.

RELIEF FOR DESERVING CASES.

The case of the two unfortunate young men, Messrs. Woodington and Rae, who were brought out from Home to take up appointments, under contract, on the Manila-Dagupan Railway, Philippine Islands, and who were dealt with under the Philippines Alien Immigration laws, with the result that they had to spend a long time in the local House of Detention, is too new in the minds of our readers to need any recapitulation as to details. It will suffice for us now to say that our representations of their case, as deserving as it is, has born good fruit, and we are pleased to be able to announce that passages have been secured for these unfortunate men, by the Government on the s.s. *Ajax*, sailing on Monday next for England. The men are of course destitute, and a few sympathizers have kindly promised donations, in their behalf, in order that they may have a little money in hand on arrival in the home country. The case has been of so desiring a nature that it has appealed to the Government, which has done all, and more, than could have been expected of it, and it is sincerely hoped the assistance and relief now afforded will enable the men to re-secure their old positions in England.

RACING IN HONGKONG.

WHAT IT COSTS TO KEEP A STUD.

16th inst.

According to the expert's opinion the racing at Hongkong this year should be the best that has ever been seen at Happy Valley. The expert was Mr. G. T. Turner, of Kennedy's Stables, the manager, Mr. G. W. Gegey, having gone to the race course "to try the Princes." Mr. Turner also gave the tip that Cotswold was a sure thing for the Derby, qualifying his remark, however, by hinting that those who backed outsiders would at least have a run for their money. The discussion which arose over this point led to the question—"What does it cost to keep a racing stud in Hongkong?"

In the opinion of the expert it is cheaper to keep a racing stud in Hongkong than in Singapore, and it is about the same here as in Shanghai. But that does not lead us much further. Coming to fact, Mr. Turner read the list of prices charged at Kennedy's Stables for stabling and training ponies. Ponies in training are \$15 a month, and there are \$5 for sundry expenses. It has to be borne in mind that all the "stud" are kept at Kennedy's Stables with the single exception of Jardines, and at the present time there are no fewer than 75 horses in training.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Military College at Whampoa has for some long time just been contr. led by Japanese of whom there are five instructors.

It has been for some months rumoured here that the Chinese were on the first of this year (4th of February) to cut their queues off, but little credence was given to the rumour.

On last Monday [9th of 1st moon] some surprise was evinced when it was stated that military officers had disposed of their pigtais, and no truth was attached to the report. On inquiry, however, it was elicited that many of the Chinese officers (naval and military) had really cut them off. I have seen two officers who have discarded their appendages. They are supplied with peaked caps and their uniform coats are much more military looking than heretofore and are bedecked with gold braid, as emblems of rank. They present a much smarter military appearance. It is expected, and is advocated by the Japanese instructors, that all military men should discard this old-time appendage.

Dr. Ruzig, of leprosy-fame, is at present in this City, practising and his agents commenced his experiments amongst the lepers, but not on such a large scale as before. His patients are now kept in boats on the river.

The weather has been bitterly cold lately, and it is reported that at 4 o'clock this morning there was ice on board the ships in harbour. Later in the day the sun tried to put forth its long expected rays and the thermometer went up a little. At about noon the sun shone beautifully. A rain storm last night must have cleared the air. The lowest thermometer reading this year is 35° Fahr.

Canton, 15th February, 1905.

THE VICTORY.

It is stated in the city to-day on good authority that the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs, H. E. Ts'en, has been recalled and will take up the Viceroyalty of Chihli. He is at present in Wu-chow, and according to report from that city is in excellent health and spirits, contrary to the reports circulated in this city a few days ago that he was seriously ill.

A COLLISION.

The French steamer *Paul Beau*, plying between Canton and Hongkong, left Canton on her usual run at 5.30 p.m. on Monday evening. The British steamer *Kwong Tung* left about the same hour and both proceeded down the front reach of the harbour. When nearing the approaches to the Whampoa Barrier the s.s. *Kwong Tung* slowed down to cross and the stern of the s.s. *Kwong Tung*. As both steamers were proceeding at slow speed very little damage was done.

MANILA.

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REFINERIES.

The Chinese sugars have been booked at \$200 and \$225 and are inquired for at the latter rate.

The market has ruled quiet over the past fortnight, part of the arrivals at this were placed at \$215 and \$225, closing steady.

There are buyers of Douglas Steamships at \$131 while China and Manila remain without change at \$23.

Star Ferries are quoted at \$38 and \$29 for the old and new shares respectively.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No. 4778

晚五十月正年一十三號光

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1905.

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CAPITAL UNCALLED 6,000,000
RESERVE FUND 9,520,000

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On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent
per Annum on the Daily Balance.
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" " 6 " 4 "
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TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 17th January, 1905. [20]

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BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL \$10,000,000
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J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 18th February, 1905. [21]

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BANKING CORPORATION. Rates may be
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INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3% per cent. per annum.

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balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND
SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED
DEPOSIT at 4 P.H.C. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 1st May, 1902. [22]

THE DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.
AUTHORIZED CAPITAL Sh. Taels 7,500,000
HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

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Berlin Calcutta Hankow
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LONDON BANKERS:
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UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LTD.
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INTEREST allowed on Current Account.
DEPOSITS received on terms which may be
learned on application. Every description of
Banking and Exchange business transacted.

H. FIGGE,
Manager.
Hongkong, 12th August, 1904. [23]

Insurance.

NRGIE GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above
Company are prepared to accept First
Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS a
CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1902. [24]

JAPAN



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(MITSUI & Co.)

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S. MINAMI, Manager, Hongkong. [25]

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CAPITAL PAID UP GOLD \$ 3,947,200
RESERVE FUND GOLD \$ 3,947,200

HEAD OFFICE:—NEW YORK,
HONOLULU, SHANGHAI,
NEWCHWANG,
LIAOYANG,
DALINY.

LONDON OFFICE:—THREADNEEDE HOUSE, E.C.

LONDON BANKERS:
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF
ENGLAND, LIMITED;
UNION OF LONDON AND SMITH'S BANK, LTD.,
BRITISH LINEN COMPANY BANK.

BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE
WORLD.

THE Corporation transacts every Description
of Banking and Exchange Business,
receives Money in Current Account and accomplies
Fixed Deposits at Rates which may be
ascertained on application.

CHARLES R. SCOTT,
Manager.
22, Des Voeux Road,
Hongkong, 18th February, 1905. [26]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE
OF THE 13TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Taels,
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL 5,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL 2,500,000

HEAD OFFICE:—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies:
CANTON, PENANG,
CHIEFOO, SINGAPORE,
HANKOW, TIENSIN,

THE Bank purchases and receives for collection
Bills of Exchange drawn on the above
lances, and sells Drafts and Telegraphic Trans-
mittals, payable at its Branches and Agencies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.
Advances made on approved securities.
Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:
per annum Fixed Deposits for 3 months,
" " 6 " 4 "
" " 3 " 3 "

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager.
Hongkong, 6th January, 1905. [27]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE:—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP £800,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-
HOLDERS £800,000
RESERVE FUND £800,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT
ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per
annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 percent
" " 6 " 3 "
" " 3 " 2 "

T. P. COCHRANE,
Manager.
Hongkong, 19th May, 1904. [28]

THE PHARMACY,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY
CHEMISTS.

A WELL ASSORTED STOCK
of DRUGS, PERFUMERY, TOILET AND
SICK ROOM REQUISITES, &c.,
always on hand.

A large variety of CHOCOLATES, in Fancy
Boxes, at reduced prices, owing to favourable
exchange.

Note Address:
56, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Hongkong.

A. STEVENSON,
Chemist.
Hongkong, 23rd January, 1905. [29]

MILCHERS & CO.,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1905. [30]

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS
YOKOHAMA VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE,	MALACCA	About 10th	Freight and (Passing through the Island Sea.)
	G. W. Babot, R.N.R.	February	Passage.
SHANGHAI	{ MALTA R. A. Peters	About 25th	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, &c.	{ CHUSAN H. W. Kendrick, R.N.R.,	Feb. 25th,	Ste Special Noon
LONDON and ANTWERP VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG,	{ FORMOSA B. W. H. Snow	About 1st	Freight and Passage.
COLUMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES		March	Passage.

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1905. [31]

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA,
ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG;
PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIc PORTS;

ALSO
LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON,
AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS;

Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers
and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS	SAILING DATES.
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY, 1st March.
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY, 15th March.
PRINZ REGENT LUFTPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 29th March.
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 12th April.
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 26th April.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 10th May.
ROON	WEDNESDAY, 24th May.
BAYERN	WEDNESDAY, 7th June.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 21st June.
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY, 5th July.
GNEISENAU	WEDNESDAY, 19th July.
SCHARNHORST	WEDNESDAY, 2nd August.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 16th August.
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 30th August.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of March, 1905, at Noon, the Steamship "SACHSEN," of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, Captain H. Feyen, with MAIls, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 27th February, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 28th February, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 28th February.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50 and Parcels should not exceed Two Cubic Feet in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses.

Linen can be washed on board.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1905. [32]

Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

— to —

Intimation.

**WM. POWELL,
LIMITED.**
**"ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS,"**
Des Vaux Road.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.**JUST ARRIVED**

A Consignment of

**MILLINERY,
SUNSHADES,
NECKWEAR,
GLOVES,**
&c., &c., &c.

DRESS FABRICS

New Voiles,
Creponines,
Delaines, &c.
A fine range of Viyella Flannels,
Embroidered Robes, Muslins,
etc., etc., etc.

**LADIES' BOOTS
AND
SHOES.**

A large variety of High-grade
Black and Brown Boots and Shoes,
at moderate prices.

**CHILDREN'S
BOOTS & SHOES**
in large variety.**FURNISHING
DEPARTMENT.****NEW PRINTED SATEENS, &c.****A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF
CUSHIONS.****ENGRAVINGS,
PICTURES AND
ART PANELS**
by well-known Artists.**NEW GOODS ARRIVE
EVERY WEEK.**

Wm. POWELL, Ltd.
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1905.

Intimations.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB,
RAE MEETING, 1905.
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY,
AND SATURDAY (OFF-DAY),
21st, 22nd, 23rd and 25th FEBRUARY.

TICKETS OF ADMISSION TO THE GRAND
STAND AND ENCLOSURE may be
obtained from MESSRS. KELLY & WALSH, LTD.,
or at the Gate. Price \$7 for the Meeting
(excluding the Off-Day), or \$3 per day.

Tickets for the Off-Day, \$2.
No one admitted without a Ticket to be
shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1905. [245]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE STEWARD'S request the pleasure of
the presence of the LADIES at the
GRAND STAND and ENCLOSURE during
the Races on the 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 25th
instant.

A Stand and an Enclosure will be reserved
for Members and Member's Wives and Families,
Tickets for which will be sent out with the
Members' Tickets after WEDNESDAY, 15th instant.

All tickets must be produced to gain
admission.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1905. [246]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NO SERVANTS will be allowed inside the
ENCLOSURE of the RACE COURSE
during the Race Days WITHOUT TICKETS
which can be had on application to the Under-
signed between WEDNESDAY, 15th, and
MONDAY, 20th inst.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1905. [247]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING
of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in
the Office of the Company, Queen's Buildings,
New Plaza, on MONDAY, the 20th February,
1905, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of
receiving the Report of the Directors and the
Statement of Accounts to the 31st December,
1904.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 6th to the 20th
February, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
THOS. I. ROSE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 26th January, 1905. [177]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY
LIMITED.

THE SIXTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held in the Office of the General Managers, St. George's Building, Victoria, on SATURDAY, 25th February, 1905, at 11 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1904.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from FRIDAY, 24th
February until WEDNESDAY, 8th March,
both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TAMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 17th February, 1905. [259]

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company, will be held at the Offices of the Company, Pedder's Street, on MONDAY, the 6th day of March, 1905, at 11.30 A.M., to receive a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1904, and the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 20th February to
the 6th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 8th February, 1905. [226]

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO
STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND at the Rate of \$1.00 per
Share, declared at the Ordinary Half-
Yearly Meeting of Shareholders, held this day,
will be payable at the Hongkong and Shanghai
Banking Corporation, on and after WEDNES-
DAY, the 15th February, 1905.

SHAREHOLDERS are requested to apply to
the Office of the Company for Warrants,
By Order of the Board of Directors,

T. ARNOLD,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1905. [244]

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on
and after this date interest at the rate of 8% per annum will be charged upon all Calls
in respect of SHARES NOT FULLY PAID UP
from the day appointed for Payment of such
Calls, namely 3rd January, 1905.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 13th January, 1905. [122]

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

M. RUTTONJEE begs to announce to his numerous customers that his Bakery in Kowloon being burnt down, he has hired another in a healthy part of the town, where BREAD will be baked and prepared under his usual personal supervision and thus ensuring, to his numerous patrons, the customary supply of the same wholesome Bread made of the finest flour and materials, that he has all throughout supplied.

Customers are kindly requested to send their
orders as usual.

H. RUTTONJEE,
No. 5, D'Aguilar Street, Hongkong,
No. 37, Elgin Street, Kowloon.
Hongkong, 4th January, 1905. [58]

**CHINESE REVOLUTIONIST IN
LONDON.****PLANS FOR GREAT CHINESE UPRISING.**

"Fifty thousand dollars, dead or alive!"

This is the price that the Chinese Government is willing to pay for the capture of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the revolutionary Chinaman, whose detention in the Chinese Embassy caused a sensation over eight years ago. The doctor is now in London again, and was interviewed by a *Daily Chronicle* representative regarding his plans for the future.

It was on October 11, 1896, as Sun Yat Sen was walking along Portland place, that a Chinaman came up and asked him whether he was a Chinaman or a Japanese. He replied that he was a Chinaman, and was giving other details, when another Chinaman appeared on the scene, and as they walked slowly Sun Yat Sen was pushed into a house and detained.

He was now, though he did not know it, a prisoner in the Chinese Embassy. The first person to greet him there, according to his story, was Sir Halliday Macartney, who opened the door and said, "Here's for you," and then informed him that he would have to wait for eighteen hours until instructions had come from the Tsung Li Yamen.

In relating his experiences afterwards Sun Yat Sen told how a man came in while he was at the Embassy and threatened to have him tied up and smuggled out of the country. Release came eventually through the efforts of Dr. Cantlie.

PROPAGANDA ABROAD.

Since those adventures Dr. Sun Yat Sen has travelled far and wide. In 1897 he passed through Canada, on his way to Japan, where he remained for two years. In 1900 he visited the south of China, and organised the Weichow rising, which was almost successful. In the next year there was a similar movement in Canton, but nothing came of it.

Since then, he has been engaged in active propaganda, until, at the beginning of 1901, he left China, and passed through the United States, working in the interests of his mission. He is now in London again on a short visit, during which he intends to give lectures and to attend to a quantity of correspondence which has accumulated during his absence.

To a representative of *The Daily Chronicle*, who called upon him to learn something of his hopes and plans for the future, he gave a brief outline of his movements.

First of all, one was naturally anxious to know when he intended to return to the scene of his political work, and what he intended to do when he got there.

On this point, however, Dr. Sun Yat Sen was not very communicative. "Of course," he said, "I cannot say very much about that. You know that there is a price on my head, and any Chinaman who could take me now and either kill me or smuggle me as a prisoner into China would be paid the reward. But that"—laughingly—"is hardly possible, is it?"

A TERRIBLE PROCLAMATION.

"You may be quite sure, however, that it has not been at all easy to work, as I have been working under the very eyes of the Chinese Government. To show you how difficult it has been, you may be surprised to learn that when I passed through Washington, the Chinese Minister there, Sir Liang Ching, issued a proclamation to the Chinese throughout the United States prohibiting them from having anything to do with the Patriotic Society, as my movement is called, under the severe penalty of their families and distant relatives in China being arrested and beheaded, and their property being confiscated.

"Such a barbarous act, suggested at the instance of an educated man, cannot be accounted for except on the probable assumption that he wished to flatter the Chinese Government so that his position as Minister might be secure.

"This being the position, you readily understand that whenever I go into China it is only by means of an effective disguise. No do not ask me to go into details. I shall be going to China again very shortly, and to make such things public would be to enormously impede my movements. Once in a place like Canton, however, the rest is easy. The population is so large that one is lost among the millions.

"But even so, in 1901, Yeing Ku Wan, the most ardent patriot, was shot in Gage-street, Hongkong, by assassins employed by the Chinese Government.

"That is not all. During the progress of the movement I have lost many friends. Some have been shot; others have been captured during the progress of risings which we have organised, and have been immediately beheaded."

THE MANCHU DYNASTY.

The history of this patriotic society is practically the history of a long struggle with the Manchu dynasty. "You must realise that the Chinese nation is not being governed at present by its own people. The reigning house is of Manchu origin. It swooped down upon our country in 1644, and by a process of massacres, robbery, and oppression, has held sway ever since.

"I need not go into the full extent of these tyrannies. But it is important to realise that, all told at the present day, they number not more than five millions. The Chinese population is not less than four hundred millions!"

"So that revolution should be easy?"

Sun Yat Sen smiled. "Once the movement is started in earnest," he said, "and it would have to be a movement of physical force, which could sweep this posse of rotten officials out of the country. The most superficial knowledge of Asiatic affairs will convince anyone that it is the weakness and corruption of the Manchu Government that is at the bottom of all the trouble."

Customers are kindly requested to send their
orders as usual.

H. RUTTONJEE,
No. 5, D'Aguilar Street, Hongkong,
No. 37, Elgin Street, Kowloon.
Hongkong, 4th January, 1905. [58]

beginning of a long series of conflicts that are likely to arise between the different Powers interested in the Chinese question. China has no government of its own. If my propaganda succeeds, the want shall be supplied."

What was this propaganda? What were its methods, its resources, and its aims?

"As far as we are concerned, the whole of China may be divided into two parts—south and west. In the south there is a population capable of absorbing such ideas as those of which I am speaking. To some extent the west is as yet unbroken ground. The south will, therefore, be the first to respond to the call. To go further into details, the Chinese people may roughly be divided into four classes:—

1. The Literati—favourable to revolution.

2. The farmers—who will follow any lead that is given them.

3. The artisans, and

4. The merchants—both of whom are ready to accept that which will be for their ultimate good.

100,000 MEN AT COMMAND.

"Amongst these people, then, I and my followers are working towards a revolution. Our chief weapon at present is the newspaper. In various parts of the world we have about twenty organs devoted solely to the propagation of our principles. Next comes education. In Japan alone there are 5,000 Chinese students, and almost to a man they favour a change. Lastly, spread throughout the length and breadth of our country are thousands of agents who are engaged in educating the people, and preparing them for the general uprising.

"When the time comes we shall have at our command 100,000 men—more perhaps. And seeing that disturbances in which the Government has played a part have been easily quelled by half such a force, our task should be easy."

"And then?"

"A constitution based upon that of the United States; a Government of the people by the people. As to the policy of European nations, and even of the Japanese, I cannot say anything. One can only surmise."

"Personally, I believe that a peaceful and united China would be a great factor in the peace of the world. Leave us alone; let us work out our own salvation in our own way. Interference cannot but be injurious. We should open all our ports to the world's trade, and if there is to be any intervention at all, let it be on the side of reform."

X-RAYS AND CANCER.

The services rendered to medicine by the radiographic examination of the human body are immense, but this is not the only field in which their utility was anticipated. It was hoped that to the Custom House officer these rays would prove invaluable, as they would enable him to explore the contents of a portmanteau without the whole of the contents passing through his inquisitive hands. But the idea was abandoned as soon as it was found that by lining a trunk with a sheet of some metal which is opaque to the rays in question the pitiless search of the Customs official could be defeated. But the widest interest of all was aroused by the thought that these wonderful rays might prove effective in the treatment of tumour and the like; and thousands breathed more freely when they heard that the application of the rays seemed to have cauterised wounds of a malignant type. These hopes were not destined to be fulfilled, though much has been done, and in all probability much will yet be done, to apply for the benefit of the patient the amodynamic influence of the rays. Even if the disease may not be cured, it is something to be thankful for that pain may be relieved or even removed. This desirable has been effected in cases when the most powerful doses of morphine have failed to ease the torture. The first result of the application of the rays is an increase of local and general metabolic action. The general health of the patient is improved when under treatment; indurations and sores gradually disappear. Next comes the effect on the cells. The rays theoretically have the power of destroying cells of low resistance without injury to the healthy tissue, the condition being that the cells are offered to the rays in sufficient quantity. The cells in the cancer growth become degenerate, and in many cases change into innocuous fibrous tissue.

COMMERCIAL.**TO-DAV'S EXCHANGE.**

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 1/10
Do demand 1/10 1/16
Do 4 months' sight 1/11

France—Bank T.T. 1/40

America—Bank T.T. 1/60

Germany—Bank T.T. 1/95

India T.T. 1/43

Do demand 1/12 1/13

Calcutta—Bank T.T. 7/2

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED
1841.

WINE AND SPIRIT
MERCHANTS.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

BRANDY.

GUARANTEED
PURE COGNAC.

Per doz.
B Superior Very Old

Cognac \$27

C Very Old Liqueur

Cognac \$33

D Hennessy's Finest

Very Old Liqueur

Cognac \$40

GUARANTEED
PURE COGNAC.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,

LIMITED,

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 11th February, 1905.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ico House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE).

DAILY—\$30 per annum.

WEEKLY—\$12 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per month, proportional to the daily issue, are delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. On copy sent by post an additional \$1.40 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 30 cents per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1905.

ANOTHER ASSASSINATION
IN RUSSIA.

Although for the moment the spread of the reform movement throughout Russia may seem to have died away under the forces of Tsardom, which are still strong enough to keep down the unorganized strength of the Russian people, evidence is not wanting that those who are favouring a more liberal and popular administration are determined upon carrying forward the agitation for reform in the internal administration of the Russian Empire. It is gaining momentum daily, and the newly-appointed Minister of the Interior, acting against the most powerful influences, is supporting these popular reforms the promoters of which have declared it to be entirely divorced from any radical revolutionary propaganda. However, soon after the Zemstvo presidents planned to meet publicly the crisis came, and the world over saw that throughout the Tsar's dominions a reign of terror, intensified by political assassination, was about to commence. An attempt was made on the life of the Emperor, followed shortly afterwards by rumour of the assassination of a Grand Duke and the report that the Governor of Warsaw had been murdered. Russian subjects grew bolder and feared not to denounce the existing regime in the open streets of the capital, and there was every indication that the friends of representative institutions had the upper hand. The upholders of autocracy and bureaucracy, those comprised in the Grand Ducal cabal, were declared to be every bit as desperate and formidable as were the unplaceable reactionists who killed in embryo the constitution devised and signed by the Tsar's grandfather. It seemed premature to credit Nicholas II. and his counsellors with any change in the administration of internal affairs. There are those among the populace, however, who believe that the Tsar and the bureaucracy will be influenced by assassinations to swerve from a line of policy deliberately pursued. This may have been the motive underlying the act of the two men who have murdered the Grand Duke Alexander Sergius, the commander-in-chief of the forces, and governor-general of Moscow. Their views will find many supporters; but those who entertain the idea that the assassination of an uncle of the Tsar can have any effect in persuading the Russian Government to yield to the demand for liberal institutions will in all probability find that such an act will necessarily tend to postpone reform. To the intervention of the late Grand Duke was due the complete victory of the reactionary party towards the close of last year, when he officially raised objections to the resolutions adopted by the Moscow Town Council advocating freedom of the Press and meeting and popular control over the Government. This naturally aroused the indignation and anger of the populace, who declared their intention of striving by every means and expending every effort to achieve the realisation of a democratic and social organisation which shall free the oppressed Fatherland and put an end to such brutalities as had been perpetrated in the cruel butchery of the participants in the recent demonstrations. Rulers have a good right to ask whether the opponents who adopt such ways of attaining their ends, as these two misled assassins have done, should not be hunted down and suppressed without mercy. Sober and loyal supporters who realise the evils in the state and desire to amend them are discredited by the involuntary association of criminals. The menaced order is driven to be harder than before—e'en if it were inclined to make concessions. We have seen during the past few months that much calls for a change in Russia, but nothing needs it more than the horrible readiness of some among its people to make use of murder, and we fear that the result of this last example of ferocity will only be to render repression more harsh than it has been in the past.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Rev. T. W. Pearce has been appointed a member of the governing body of Queen's College.

THE four defendants charged with raiding a Chinese club, and stealing \$20, have been committed for trial.

No dogs brought from Shanghai will be permitted to land in Hongkong for a period of six months from the 12th inst.

THE Italian Naval Estimates show an increase of £45,000 on account of the formation of a reserve fleet and a naval station in America.

SIR Francis Jeune has resigned his position as President of the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division, and has received a Peacock.

We regret to learn that Chevalier Z. Volpicelli, Consul-General for Italy, is laid up at his residence at the Peak, with a severe attack of fever.

A MATCH, Moscow Recreation Club v. Y. M. C. A. (Chinese Dep.) was played at Causeway Bay yesterday, when the former obtained 3 goals, against the Y. M. C. A. nil.

It is reported that the steamer *Scatman*, which cleared from this port for Vladivostok at the beginning of the month, has been captured by the Japanese. She had a cargo of rice from Saigon on board.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mr. H. M. Bevis, Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Shanghai, who is at present suffering from an attack of small-pox and pneumonia, is now progressing favourably.

THE report of the sub-committee appointed by the Sanitary Board to consider and report on the question of reserving a site at Kowloon for a Protestant cemetery, as recommended by the Medical Officers of Health, will be dealt with at a Board meeting on Monday.

It is notified that Major Radcliffe, 93rd Burma Infantry, is appointed Commandant of the regiment vice Colonel Iremonger, whose tenure is about to expire. Major Bernard, 92nd Punjabis, succeeds Major Radcliffe as 2nd in command of the 93rd Burma Infantry.

THE report of the Philippine Weather Bureau just published for the month of September last shows that during that month there occurred in the archipelago 20 earthquakes, only one of which was in Manila. None of the shocks of the 20 earthquakes were of intensity and no damage resulted from them.

NOTICE is given in the Gazette that the Very Rev. Francisco Rodriguez Naval is the duly appointed successor to the late Very Rev. Evaristo Torres, in his office of procurator in Hongkong for the Dominican Missions in the Far East, and proof of such appointment has been placed in the hands of the Governor.

LONDON is very much exercised over a storm of religious enthusiasm that prevails in what is known as East London. Thousands of people have been drawn into the unusual excitement, and the leaders have predicted the immediate destruction of the world and all inhabitants not allied with the present movement.

IT will be seen from our advertisement columns that the boxing match between McCoy's champion middle-weight of the Philippines, and Christie, whose clean record in the ring in Hongkong is well-known, taken place at the City Hall on Wednesday next. In addition to this 20-rounds event, there are other competitions which are likely to prove equally as interesting.

AT a meeting of the Sanitary Board on Monday a minute will be presented by the Hon. the Registrar General suggesting that a return be furnished showing the number of applications for modifications of the requirements of certain sections of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, considered by the Board and the number of the same that have been granted since the passing of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

FAVOURABLE report has been made by the Ways and Means committee of the House of Representatives on the bill revising the tariff schedules of the Philippine Islands. This bill, intended for the modification of the local Philippine tariff in harmony with the needs of the situation in the islands, is the one that was prepared by the Philippine Commission, and no material changes are contemplated in it by the committee. It is probable that the measure will pass both houses as it stands, as it raises no issues that affect the United States.

THE British steamer *Carlisle*, Captain Simpson is in San Miguel bay near Nueva Caceres, P.I., having come in under sail, her propeller being lost. It is reported that the vessel is under a charter to the Russian government and was on her way from Vladivostok to Port Arthur with supplies for the garrison when she lost her propeller. This was nearly three months ago, and she has been trying to make port under sail. Captain Foster of the coast guard cutter *Luzon* will probably tow the vessel to Tobacco when arrangements will be made to repair her, and she will proceed to sea again after getting orders.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

USUAL BONUS DOUBLED.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

story of the bank. He joined here in 1867, shortly after the bank was started, and he has had a very large share in raising it to its present position. His ability, tact and kindly disposition commanded success wherever he has served the bank. Many of you will remember him as manager in Shanghai where, as also in the north of China, he did so much to build up our business. I can look back myself 24 years in Shanghai and at that time there was no better known or more popular resident in the settlement than Mr. (as he then was) Ewen Cameron. A man of broad views and sound judgment, he took a prominent part in negotiating the early loans issued by the bank for the Imperial Chinese Government, and the friendly relations which were then established between that government and the bank. I am glad to say, exist to-day and I hope will always continue. Since he went to London he has also taken the leading part there in negotiating the various Chinese and Japanese Government loans which it has been the bank's good fortune to be so prominently associated with. His marvellous energy and whole-hearted devotion to the general interests of the bank, and its shareholders are well known to you all but perhaps nowhere has he done better service than in the City of London, where he made many good and influential friends for the bank.

Mr. F. Salinger seconded and said:—I have

much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the very satisfactory report and accounts which have been laid before us. The position attained by this institution, through the zeal and energy of all connected with it, is one of which we may feel proud. I am sure that all the shareholders will appreciate the £1 bonus, and, though the Chairman has remarked that we may not always be so fortunate, I am convinced that, under the present able management, we may look forward to the future with all confidence. I cannot help expressing the sincere regret which must be felt by all at the retirement of Sir Ewen Cameron, and more especially at the very sad reasons for it.

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Arnold proposed the re-election of Messrs. H. E. Tomkins, A. J. Raymond and N. A. Siebs to the Directorate.

Mr. Anton seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Medhurst proposed, and the Hon. Mr. Gershon Stewart seconded the re-election of Messrs. A. G. Wood and W. Hutton Potts as auditors, and this was also agreed to.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman who announced that the dividend warrants would be ready on Monday.

NAVAL NOTES.

The British battleships *Glory*, *Ocean*, *Vengeance*, and *Centurion*, and the cruisers *Suffolk*, *Hogue*, *Andromeda*, *Iphigenia* and *Astrea* returned from Mirs Bay this morning.

The United States battleship *Oregon* lost a torpedo while in practice off Sangay point the latter part of last week. There is no danger to navigation owing to the war nose not having been attached. It is said the government will suffer a loss of \$1,000 should it not be recovered.

TO THE "SULLY."

The s.s. *Hornet*, chartered by the Hongkong Salvage Syndicate, to carry on the salvage operations on the French armoured cruiser *Sully*, ashore on the coast of Tonkin, French Indo-China, left this afternoon for the scene of the wreck, with the salvage party and gear, in charge of Mr. James Watt Jameson.

THE "ADAMASTOR" TO ENTERTAIN.

Invitations have been issued by the Captain and Officers of the Portuguese cruiser *Adamastor*, in a reunion to take place on board to-morrow, Sunday, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Launches will leave Blake Pier at 2.30 p.m. to convey the guests on board. This party will be of the nature of a tea party, with an informal concert, and is given in return for the hospitality extended to the hosts during their stay in the port.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

SALARIES OF THE SUBORDINATES.

The local Press announced a few weeks since that the subordinate members of the Hongkong Civil Service had, for the third time, petitioned the Government, urging forcefully the incommensurate increase the lower branch of the service had received to the disproportionate higher cost of living in the Colony. As anticipated in our columns, the clerical branch of the Government service, who are the people principally affected, stood but little chance of success in their endeavour to secure any improvement in their condition which, as compared with their brethren in the commercial torso, is anything but an enviable one. Not that their case deserves less consideration; but, as was pointed out, they needed that "backing" which was promptly forthcoming when "Exchange Compensation" was under consideration for the favoured ones. Nor was the support wanting when later the question of "double compensation" arose; for the Legislative Council to a man voted in favour of the officials.

The Subordinates have received their reply. Their latest petition has been negatived. The Colonial Secretary informed the petitioners that Government had given their decision previously and would not again re-open the subject for consideration. Meanwhile, the burdensome increase in the cost of living in Hongkong goes merrily on, and why should any one concern himself with it so long as he draws a comfortable competence and is compensated—and that twice over—for any loss which the decreasing purchasing power of the dollar entails?

TELEGRAM.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH"

SERVICE.

RUSSIA IN REVOLT.

GRAND DUKE SERGIUS

BLOWN TO PIECES.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

London, 10th February,

5.40 p.m.

The Russian Grand Duke Sergius has been blown to pieces by a bomb thrown by two men in a cab, near the Kremlin at Moscow.

The assassins have been arrested.

[The above was issued in an "Extra" this forenoon.—Ed., H.K.T.]

THE CRUISE OF THE FLEET.

OPERATIONS IN MIRS BAY.

The fleet, under Admiral Sir George Noel, left harbour on Tuesday forenoon, 14th instant, and steamed in an Easterly direction. A full nightfall speed was increased and various tactics were carried out in a somewhat heavy sea, in which even the greatest of the battleships grew lively while breaking the spray and waves over their foremost turrets. It is supposed that a torpedo attack was to be delivered against the ships, but no actual conformation is to hand such was the case! The fleet, however, kept clear of torpedo boats, and the attack, if attempted, was not successful. On Wednesday, all ships moored at Mirs Bay, performing evolutions and drills. On Thursday morning, several hill-tops were, by supposition, the strongholds of an enemy's force, and were made the interesting object of an attack delivered by land and sea. Each ship landed her companies of men, with field equipment, and under cover of the guns of the fleet, a landing was effected. The landing parties were safely taken ashore and everything ready, the flagship fired a signal gun and the attack commenced, the ships keeping up a fire on the positions. All men entered with keen interest into the attack, and the assaults were delivered with dash and rapidity on three positions simultaneously after which the men re-embarked. Friday was spent in towing target practice, and to-day, just before noon, the fleet, led by the Flag-ship *Glory* and *Ocean*, entered harbour in two lines and went to their appointed buoys. It is believed they again go to sea on Saturday next.

THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.

In their report on the Widows and Orphans' Fund for 1904, the directors state that the amount to the credit of the fund on the 31st December last was \$106,525.75, including \$10,833.3 for interest, as per statement appended. The average monthly contributions amount now to about \$2,300. On the 31st December, 1903, the number of contributors on the books was 433, and on the 31st December, 1904, 449, of whom 169 are bachelors, 269 are married men, and 11 are widowers. During the year, 68 officers joined the fund, 54 left, and 6 died. The total number of children on the books is 369. There are in the list 27 pensioners, whose pensions aggregate \$3,238.83 per annum. Of the 54 who left, 45 resigned Government service, and 11 were dismissed.

SHIPPING JETSAM.

Captain Turner of the German s.s. *Hohenzollern* reports:—"On a voyage from Sotobaya to Hongkong the vessel struck in Macassar Strait in 5° 26' South and 118° 50' E. of Greenwich an uncharted coral rock. The Light of Dayan Dayang in bears' E. by N. magnetic, distance 16 miles off."

The Glasgow Herald *Shipbuilding and Engineering Annual* for the past year gives some very interesting information regarding the progress of Colonial shipbuilding in various parts of the British Empire. Speaking of Canada that journal says that progressive as that country is there are more hopes of shipbuilding in other and more outlying portions of the Empire. In the report of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, for instance, there may be noticed a large steamer. This vessel is the largest yet built at the port and a few years ago the Company would have hesitated very much before attempting such a contract.

But now they can take such orders and can compete with other builders in any part of the world, in spite of the fact that all materials have to be imported. The vessel referred to is the *Kia Ling*, which is of 3,700 tons register and 1,600 I. H. P.

SHIPPING AND MAILED.

MAILS DUE.

French (*Oceania*) 21st inst.

Indian (*Cathay & Apur*) 21st inst.

American (*Manchuria*) 25th inst.

Indian (*Namang*) 1st prox.

Canadian (*Athenian</*

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuters.]

Parliament.

LONDON, 16th February.
Mr. Asquith's amendment on the fiscal question has been introduced, but the debate is lifeless. A division is expected to-night.

The Third Baltic Squadron.

The Third Baltic squadron has left Labau.
Later.

Naval Disaster.

An explosion has occurred on board a British submarine at Queenstown. A sub-lieutenant and three others were killed, and fourteen injured.

(Cable news.)

Mukden to be abandoned.

San Francisco, 14th February.
Kropatkin is preparing to abandon Mukden. The first temporary stopping place will be Telin and from there the retreat will continue by easy stages until the army reaches Harbin. The demoralization of the troops in Manchuria and the doubt and uncertainty that prevails in St. Petersburg with reference to augmenting the present army, has rendered further offensive operations on the part of Kropatkin's force impossible, and the policy of keeping out of the way will be pursued until such time as the commanding general shall feel able to cope with the forces of Yüan.

The railroad will be destroyed as the Russian forces abandon the province, but owing to the solidly frozen earth it will be practically impossible to render the grade useless to the Japanese, and the line now in the hands of Yüan will be rapidly extended over whatever territory may be abandoned by or won from the Russians.

Extensive barracks have been established along the entire line between Mukden and Harbin and everything is complete in anticipation of the escape from the victorious Japanese. There is general rejoicing in Mukden over the preparation of the Russians to abandon the ancient city and the inhabitants will gladly welcome the advent of the Japanese.

St. ANDREW'S, KOWLOON.

At the Kowloon Institute last evening a meeting was held to discuss the affairs of the new church, and to consider means for securing fittings, etc.

His Worship, the Bishop of Victoria, who had convened the meeting presided, and there were also present the Revs. F. T. Johnson, J. H. Finance, F. Icely, and Messrs. E. Osborne, A. Bryer, E. C. Wilke, E. C. Lewis, and others, among whom were several ladies interested.

After the plans of the church had been handed round, the Bishop said that the meeting was called to talk about matters connected with the new church. As they already knew, Sir Paul Chater had made a present of this church to the Colony, and the church was now in process of erection, and there was every reason to hope that on St. Andrew's Day they would be able to consecrate St. Andrew's Church. A deed of trust had, among other things, to be drawn up, and the idea was to invest it with the Cathedral Church Fund, with a vestry at Kowloon, by whom the affairs of the church would be governed, the deed of trust being so held as to prevent it from being alienated at any time for any other purpose. To have a vestry they must have a congregation, and the speaker hoped soon to have both. The trust deed, when drawn up, would be made part of the consecration service, and held by the Bishop of the Colony. Then there was the question of the Chaplain, and for this the Cathedral Body had arranged to contribute for three years the sum of \$2,000 as part of the Chaplain's stipend, he also working for the Cathedral when required, until the Kowloon church could run alone when his connection with the Cathedral would be severed, and he hoped that that would be before the three years were up. Then there was the question of the internal furnishings and lighting, and these required planning and subscription. His idea was to form a small representative committee for this work, and there were no doubt several persons, like himself, who would wish to give some of the furnishings to the Church. Details could not of course be decided at a meeting like this; they must be left to such a committee, to which ladies should be invited to join that they might aid by their handwork.

The Rev. Icely said that so long as a Naval Chaplain was connected with the Church the Naval Communion Plate could be used, and he asked the committee to keep this in mind as he would not be in the Colony himself. The Rev. F. T. Johnson then proposed that the committee be formed, consisting of His Lordship, the Bishop of Victoria, Rev. C. Gordon Vaudin, Rev. F. T. Johnson, and Messrs. A. Bryer, J. C. Lowe, J. P. Plummer, E. C. Wilke, E. Osborne, E. C. Lewis, W. King, and Dr. J. H. Swan.

After discussion it was decided to add the names of Messrs. W. C. Jack and J. Welsh, which was carried.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

VOLUMINOUS official correspondence has been published at Calcutta on the subject of fixing a standard time for India and Burma. The initial letter from the Government of India last Friday invited the opinions of local bodies upon two proposals, which the Government of India is prepared to accept, namely: (1) For an Indian standard time for use upon all Indian railways and telegraphs in India, nine minutes in advance of Madras time; and (2) for Burma, a standard time for similar use in Burma, five minutes in advance of Rangoon time. These two proposed times are respectively exactly 5½ hours, and 6½ hours ahead of Greenwich time.

TURN TOPICS.

18th February.

All this morning's gallops were over the grass course which was far from being fast. The jockeys were of opinion that it was positively slow.

Cumming rehearsed every one of the Kings, Scottish, with him in the saddle, opening the ball. All the Kings carried a light blanket on their backs girthed with a light belly band.

The times were:—

Scottish King,	Umbrian King,
1½ miles.	1 mile.
40	36
40	36
38	35 4/5
36	31 3/5
31 2/5	2.19 2/5
30 5/5	

Saxon King,	Tuscan King,
1 mile.	1 mile.
32	36
35	35
35	35
34	33 3/5
2.16	2.19 2/5
2.18	2.23 4/5

Ca Canby (Johnstone),	Highland Chief (Clarke); Alarm,
1 mile.	1 mile.
36	37 4/5
35	38 1/5
34	36 1/5
32	31 3/5
2.18	2.23 4/5

K. O. S. B. (Johnstone),	Sport Royal (Clarke),
1 mile.	Highlander, ("boy"),
	1½ miles.
39	36
36	35
36	35
33	38
2.25	35
2.25	3.01
Pulka (Grésson), (1st); The Professor (Abel),	
Border Raider (Johnstone) (2nd),	½ mile.
1½ miles.	32
35	32 1/5
35 2/5	1.04 1/5
37	
34 3/5	
32	
2.54	
Somali (Hays),	Blackbird (Vida),
1½ miles.	inside course.
33	32
34	33
35 2/5	3 3/4
37	34
35 3/5	2.12 3/4
2.55	
Times for Patromony, Forward, and Wee MacGregor missed.	

Times for Patromony, Forward, and Wee MacGregor missed.	Blackbird (Vida),
	inside course.
1½ miles.	1 mile.
33	32
34	33
35 2/5	3 3/4
37	34
35 3/5	2.12 3/4
2.55	

A sad accident befell our popular and extremely good natured jockey, Mr. Clarke. He took out Highland Fling to gallop with Wee MacGregor. On going up, the Straight the vicious pony bolted. All Mr. Clarke's skill in horsemanship could not control him, and the pony went full gallop right round the wrong course making a straight dash up the bridge and back to his stall which is in the last of the stables at the furthest end of the enclosure. All the while, Mr. Clarke was firmly seated in the saddle, but as the pony rushed into the stable, he was knocked against the wall and thrown off, unconscious, to the ground. No doubt, he had lost his wind. Mr. Macdonald (Highland Fling's owner) rushed up to where Clarke was lying and by means of ice restored him to consciousness. A Naval doctor was at once telephoned for from the Naval Hospital, who with commendable promptitude answered the call with stretcher and bearers, in the person of two "Handymen." Mr. Clarke was then removed to the Naval Hospital.

Highland Fling is a fidgety sort of animal, often exhibiting symptoms of nervousness on the course, when he is given to the nasty and dangerous knack of "swerving" on what might seem to be like a pivot, if the expression be allowed. When he is led out he should be avoided.

To-morrow's final gallop will be intensely interesting. The first lot of ponies will be going out at six, and later at ten in the forenoon we shall see the last lot before the races on Tuesday.

EARLY BIRD.

From inquiries made later in the forenoon as to Mr. Clarke's condition, we were courteously informed by the hospital authorities that the accident was, fortunately, not of a serious character. Mr. Clarke sustained only slight concussion, and no bones were broken.

Just before going to press we made further inquiries and ascertained that Mr. Clarke was still confined to hospital where he is doing as well as can be expected.

PRETTY WEDDING AT THE UNION CHURCH.

A very pretty wedding was solemnised at the Union-Church this morning, the contracting parties being Mr. Alan Stevenson, the popular assistant manager of the Dairy Farm, and Miss Mabel Clarke, a charming young Hampshire lady, who only arrived in the Colony yesterday direct from home. Over a hundred invitations to be present had been sent out, and the majority being accepted, there was a very good attendance both at the church and at the reception subsequently held at the Hongkong Hotel. Rev. C. H. Hickling officiated at the ceremony, and Mr. J. E. Walker acted as best man. The happy pair left in the afternoon amidst showers of blessings and good wishes, for Macao, where the honeymoon is to be spent.

GOING HOME.

RELIEF FOR DESERVING CASES.

The case of the two unfortunate young men, Messrs. Woodington and Rae, who were brought out from Home to take up appointments by the Colony, there is one supremely important point, remarks the *Free Press*, that has not yet been touched upon. In what position will the new Directing Board or Trust stand as compared with the Taojung Pagar Board of Directors as regards supplies of material and machinery? We trust that the management will be in a perfectly independent position. Consider for a moment what it would mean if that supremely contemptible business anachronism, the Crown Agents, were to put forward pretensions to handle the supplies of materials for the new Board. The very idea is a nightmare. We do not want any more red flannel petticoats instead of sarongs, which was what for the Medical Department, the Crown Agents' intelligence was once equal to perpetrating. It is some comfort to know that the local Government has gone far to make such a *vehicle* impossible by declaring that it will place the business management entirely in the hands of the selected Board, and will only exercise control in matters of policy, that is to say, where due recognition has to be given to necessities, Imperial or naval, arising out of political relations, and thus outside the mere working of the Port as a commercial maritime facility. Seeing that the great programme of dock building and wharves reconstruction will be outside the purview of the Colonial Public Works Department, and will be carried out entirely by the engineering staff and contractors of the Harbour Board, we do not well see that the Crown Agents can invent any pretext for intruding. They may rest content with their erection of a monument to their own extravagance and incapacity in the form of the Singapore-Kranji Railway, and with the consciousness of having worked mischief enough to make their name a local by-word for a generation.

THE CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

The Chief Justice (Sir Henry S. Berkeley) took his seat at ten o'clock this morning, and opened the business of the February Sessions.

THE HOLLYWOOD ROAD FIRE.

LIFE SENTENCES.

Chang Chung and Tang Hop were charged with arson, by setting fire to a dwelling house, persons being therein, at 168 Hollywood Road, on the 12th January.

Prisoners both pleaded not guilty.

The following were sworn jurors:—Messrs. W. S. Brown, (foreman), E. G. Wilke, E. Thomas, E. Smith, Phillip Page, J. McCormack and F. Klene.

The Hon. Attorney-General (Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C.) in outlining the case, said there were a number of people sleeping at the time in the house in question some of whom unfortunately died as the result of the fire which the accused were charged with igniting. The prisoners were the cook and coolie employed on the ground floor where the fire broke out. Shortly after two o'clock in the morning of the 12th January, a Chinese police sergeant off duty was passing the house in a chair when he saw the first prisoner standing outside the house looking into the shop and calling "Fire" at the top of his voice. The sergeant got out of the chair and looked into the shop, but could see no sign of fire. He sergeant arrested him, and also the second man, who then ran out of the shop. Immediately afterwards fire suddenly broke out and spread with terrible rapidity, there being now a very strong smell of kerosine coming from the shop. The sergeant said to the first prisoner "This is your doing," to which he replied "I could not help it, my master ordered me to do it." He afterwards said his master had gone to Canton. These premises, Counsel said, were an absolute death-trap. It seemed that the houses in Hollywood Road, and Square Street, stood back to back, but the level of Square Street was very much above the level of Hollywood Road, and the only means of escape from three-stories of the houses in Square Street was through the houses in Hollywood Road. The reason for the crime was the usual reason—to defraud the insurance company, the premises having only recently been insured for \$1,500, and it was in evidence that an attempt was made to insure it for more.

A number of witnesses were called, all of whom spoke to perceiving a very strong smell of kerosine coming from the building. The fire spread with remarkable rapidity. When the prisoners were taken to the police station, they denied all knowledge of the fire. Inspector Gourlay was called and spoke to the recovery of a number of bodies. Prisoners both alleged that they were asleep at the time. The first one said he was awakened by the smell of fire, and the second by the first prisoner calling out "Fire."

His Lordship, in summing up, said that it is deliberately set fire to a house wherein people were sleeping, was the most heinous offence with which any man could be charged. The consequences of the fire in this case had been terrible in the extreme, ten persons having been burned to death. One man had only time to snatch up his infant son, run out to the third floor, and with the assistance of others, broke down a partition, and got into the next house. This man was apparently unable to save his wife and two daughters, whose dead bodies were subsequently found on the ground floor, having fallen through from the room they occupied above. His Lordship pointed out that the shop was heavily insured, and yet on examination after the fire, not a vestige of stock or furniture could be found.

The jury after retiring to consider their verdict found both prisoners guilty.

His Lordship, in passing sentence, said: You have been found guilty on the clearest possible evidence of the atrocious crime of setting fire to a house in which you knew people were sleeping regardless of the consequences that might ensue, and merely for the purpose of getting some few dollars from your master. The result of your wicked deed has been that no less than ten persons, men, women and children lost their lives on that night. Were you to pay the penalty with your own lives, in my opinion the punishment would not be too severe. I have not the power to pass sentence of death upon you for this offence, but however the law allows me to give you a very terrible punishment, and I propose to do so. You are sentenced to imprisonment for life.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements have been purchased at \$1.90 and close with further buyers. Hongkong Ice have sellers at \$2.42 ex the final dividend, of \$1.32 paid on the 14th inst. China Provinces have been done at \$1.80 and \$1.60 closing steady. Electric (old issue) have improved at \$1.20. Steam Water-boats have been fixed at \$1.50. Central Stores (new issue) are asked for at \$1.70. Shanghai Gas shares have advanced and can be placed at Tls. 110. The Company will pay a final dividend of Tls. 51, making Tls. 51 per share for the past year. Langkatos have declared a first interim dividend of Tls. 71 per share account 1905, payable (probably) on 1st October. Shares have weakened to Tls. 265 at which rate, however, there are buyers.

SINGAPORE DOCKS.

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. J. J. Plummet, Chief Assistant of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 18th at 11 a.m. The barometer has risen in Japan and fallen throughout China, and to a less extent in Formosa and over the neighbouring portion of the Pacific.

Shipping—Steamers.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAV. CO., LTD.

JOINT SERVICES.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA
AND SUMATRA PORTS.

MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

OUTWARDS.

FROM	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PINGSUEY"	3rd March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ANTENOR"	5th March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ULYSSES"	7th March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PYRRHUS"	10th March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"MACHAON"	13th March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ALCINOUS"	18th March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"OANFA"	21st March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"KAISOW"	23rd March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"AGAMEMNON"	28th March.

HOMEWARDS.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"AJAX"	20th February.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"IDOMENEUS"	28th February.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"STENTOR"	14th March.
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"PATROCLUS"	20th March.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"ACHILLES"	28th March.
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"MACHAON"	11th April.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"ALCINOUS"	20th April.
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"KAISOW"	25th April.

S.S. "AJAX" left Shanghai a.m. on the 17th inst., and may be expected to arrive here on the 19th.

* Taking cargo for Liverpool at London rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and	"PING-SUEY"	6th March.
ALL PACIFIC COAST PORTS, v/d	"OANFA"	24th March.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS.

Hongkong, 18th February, 1905.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
CEBU and ILOILO	"SUNGXIANG"	20th February.
SHANGHAI	"WODRUNG"	20th "
NINGPO and SHANGHAI	"SEZHUAN"	21st "
MANILA	"TEAN"	21st "
SHANGHAI	"SHAOHSING"	22nd "
SHANGHAI	"HANGCHOW"	22nd "
KOBE	"PAOTING"	23rd "
CEBU and ILOILO	"CHANGSHA"	23rd "
SHANGHAI	"KAITONG"	24th "
TIENTSIN	"KALGAN"	24th "
SWATOW, AMOY, CHEFOO & TIENTSIN	"KANGU"	25th "
PART DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND,	"CHELI"	26th "
COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE,	"CHANGSHA"	13th March.
BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE		

The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

* Taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

* Taking cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian Ports.

N.B.—REDUCED SALOON FARES, SINGLE AND RETURN, TO MANILA AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS. (SEE SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT).

For Freight or Passage, apply to

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Hongkong, 18th February, 1905.

Hongkong-Manila.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
RUBI.....	2540	R. W. Almond...	MANILA	SATURDAY, 25th Feb., at 10 A.M.
ZAFIRO.....	2540	A. Fraser.....	"	SATURDAY, 4th March, at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOME'S & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 18th February, 1905.

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR NEW YORK via SUEZ CANAL

(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS.

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOME'S & CO., General Agents.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1905.

PORTLAND & ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA, FOR

PORTLAND, OREGON,

OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH

THE OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Steamship Tons Captain To Sail at Daylight on
"ARAGONIA".....5,198 Schuld' March 5th, 1905.
"NICOMEDIA".....4,370 Wagner March 1st, " "
"NUMANTIA".....4,370 Brehmer April 27th, "
"ARABIA".....4,483 Bable May 11th, "

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points and all Eastern Canadian and United States Points. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate with or apply to:

ALLAN CAMERON, General Agent.

NOTICE.

BOO CHEONG, of No. 20, Pottinger Street, has always on hand

FIRST-CLASS WRITING AND PRINTING PAPERS, AND STATIONERY

of every variety.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1904.

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Shipping—Steamers.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

AUSTRALIAN LINE.

REDUCTION IN PASSAGE RATES,
From 1st January, 1904.

ALSO REDUCED FARES TO
MANILA AND RETURN.

STEAMERS fitted throughout with Electric Light, First Class Accommodation. Unrivalled Table. Duly qualified Surgeon carried.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1904.

[15]

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

Tons Captain

"KWONG CHOW".....1,309 J. P. MARTIN

"KWONG TUNG".....1,286 H. W. WALKER

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong about 5.30 o'clock every evening (Sunday excepted).

These Fine Steamers have unparallelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity.

Passage Fare—Single Journey ... \$4

Meals \$1 each.

The Company's Wharf is a short distance West of the Harbour Master's Office.

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LTD., and

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LTD.,

No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1905.

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HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

THE British Steamship

"YING KING,"

Captain E. I. Page, of 1,081 tons, Registered,

is the newest, fastest, and most luxuriously furnished steamer on the line and is lighted throughout with Electricity; hot and cold water service. The cuisine is unexcelled.

Leaving Hongkong every MONDAY,

WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY EVENING,

at 9 P.M. and returning from Canton every

following evening at 5 P.M.

1st Class...\$3.00 for Single Journey.

and...1.50

Meals 50 cents each.

The steamer's wharf is at the Western end of Wing Lok Street.

YUK ON S.S. CO., LTD.,

No. 216, Wing Lok Street.

WENDT & CO.,

Canton Agents,

Hongkong, 24th June, 1904.

[15]

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "WING CHAI,"

Captain T. Austin, R.N.R.

THIS Steamer departs from Hongkong on

Week Days, at 8 A.M. and on Sun-

days at 8.30 A.M. Departs from Macao on Week

Days at 2.30 P.M. and on Sundays at 6.30 P.M.

FARES—Week Days, 1st Class, including

Cabin and servant, Single \$3; Return Ticket,

\$5; 2nd Class, \$1; 3rd Class, 50 cents.

Every Sunday will be an Excursion, at the

following rates:—1st and 2nd Class, Single

TICKIN' and DINNER can be supplied

either on Board, or at the Macao Hotel, for

returning passengers only, at an extra charge of \$2.

On

